THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXI., No. 858. SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 12, 1883. PRICE, TLS. 12 ₹ AN.

REC'D 21 JAN 84

JUST PUBLISHED IN CALCUTTA

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GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.

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North-China Herald

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VOL. XXXI., No. 858. SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 12, 1883. PRICE, TLS. 12 PER AN.

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The French mail of 31st October arrived in London on the 11th December.

BIRTHS.

At No. 5, Nanking Road, Shanghai, on the 4th December, Mrs. T. HAROLD VALE, of a daughter.

At Tientsin, on the 1st December, the wife of G. RITTER, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 8th December, by the Rev. F. R. Smith, B. J. SKEATE BRINKWORTH to MARTHA CATHERINE, (Pattie) daughter of Richard Limbrick, of Forest Hill, London.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Chungking*, for Amoy—Miss Fenning, and Mr. E Byrne.

Per str. *Haeshin*, for Foochow—Mr. G. H. Harding.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mr. Cory.

Per str. *Ichang*, for Chinkiang—Rev. M. T. Yates. For Hankow—Mr. E. H. Latty.

Per str. *Peking*, for Hongkong—Mr. Bramann.

Per str. *Nagoya Maru*, for Yokohama—Sir James Duke, Capt. Bruce Canerck and Mr. A. Stackford. For London—Mr. C. F. Vallin.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Nagoya Maru*, from apan—Rev. and Mrs. T. R. Graves, Miss E. F. Swinney, Mrs. Schreibner, Mr. Higashai (H.I.J.M.'s Consul, Chefoo), Messrs. G. A. Burns, G. Morgan, Machida and A. Konnehame.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Miss Anderson, and Master Ernest Graham.

Per str. *Taiwo*, from Chinkiang—Mr. Cane.

Per str. *Yangt-é*, from Marseilles—Messrs. Lewis, Mackenzie and Melchers. From Hongkong—Mr. Joseph Gastellu.

Per str. *Peking*, from Hongkong — Capt. Morrison.

Per str. *Wingsang*, from Glasgow — Mr. Smith.

Per str. *El Dorado*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Capt. and Mrs. Baxter and child.

Per str. *Yehsin*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Messrs. Henderson and Mason.

Per str. *Pechili*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. Innoff.

Per str. *Pautah*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Messrs. R. B. Mostyn, Rohn and Sh. Amond, Misses (2) Cubbins, and Master Skinner.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Hankow—Mr. McGuire.

Per str. *Priam*, from London—Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. A. Stopford, Miss and Master Stevens, and eleven European Policemen. From Hongkong—Mr. Day.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, from Wuhu—Mr. Nutter. From Chinkiang—Mr. Hatfield.

Per str. *Keelung*, from Swatow and Amoy—Mr. Harp.

Per str. *Hwaiyuen*, from Hongkong—Mr. Russell Young.

Per str. *Kowshing*, from Hongkong—Mrs. J. Maas.

Per str. *Orestes*, from Liverpool—Messrs. Wilson, McDonald and Eddie.

Per str. *Kiangkwan*, from Hankow—Mr. J. T. Green.

Per str. *Taku*, from Foochow—Mr. Cornelli.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Sindh*, for Suez—Mr. and Mrs. Startseff. For Port Said—Mr. Naoumaw. For Singapore—Mr. Shumway. For Hongkong—Mr. A. Burns and Mr. St. Amand.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer 8 A.M.	Barometer Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade Max.	Thermometer in shade Min.	Hygrometer at 9 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind Force.	Wind Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
Dec.	° ′	°	°	°	°	°			
6	30.50	33.5	42.5	28.5	33.0	31.0	3	N.W.	..
7	30.41	32.0	41.5	28.0	31.5	29.5	2	W.N.W.	..
8	30.26	32.0	45.0	27.5	31.5	30.0	2	S.S.W.	..
9	30.21	47.0	52.0	31.5	46.5	39.5	3	W.N.W.	..
10	30.35	37.5	53.0	33.0	37.0	35.5	1	„	..
11	30.26	37.0	52.5	33.0	36.5	35.0	2	S.E.	..
12	30.27	41.5	56.5	37.0	41.0	39.0	2	N.W.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull) r. rain s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

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The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12, 1883.

MR. GOSCHEN in his address delivered before the Institute of Bankers in April last, on the probable results of an increase in the purchasing power of gold, drew attention to the great fall there had occurred in the value of many staple articles of consumption. Without coming to any definite conclusion as to the effect which the withdrawal of two hundred millions of gold—the amount he computed to have been taken by Germany, the United States and Italy, and applied "to purposes for which ten or fourteen years ago it was not necessary to apply it,"—he yet attributes to that movement of gold much of the fall he shows to have taken place in the produce markets at home. We may say here that it seems to have been made evident by other writers that Mr. Goschen seriously over-estimated this shifting of gold. Instead of two hundred millions it appears that the amount taken by the countries we have named did not exceed £130,000,000 to £140,000,000. Again, it was pointed out in answers which appeared to Mr. Goschen's paper that the prices, those of 1872, which he compared with those of last year, were considerably inflated. The termination of the Franco-German war caused a speculative period to set in, in almost all kinds of business. Then, again, for some years past there has been a large increase in the capital embarked in all descriptions of commerce, and a consequent diminution in the employment of credit. This always has a direct tendency to diminish profits; and this has, no doubt, been the case in foreign and domestic trade, with the effect of lessening the market prices of commodities. In the Eastern and the American trade, there can be no doubt, there is more hard cash employed in business now-a-days than there ever was before. It may not be the merchant's cash, but that of intermediaries, bankers and others, who in their turn have much larger means at their disposal than in former times. It may also be pointed out that among the minor causes working towards lower prices of the ordinary commodities of life, co-operative stores must have had a considerable effect. They have compelled tradesmen to lower

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their prices, and this has told upon the wholesale produce markets. The bad harvests, also, with the indifferent trade of the last few years, must have forced many people to be economical. Another cause of the reduced values of most articles, and probably one of the most powerful, has been the decrease in speculation which the opening of the Suez Canal, and rapid communication between different parts of the world, has brought about. It is very rarely now-a-days that in the articles of export from China to England any considerable speculation occurs at home. If a speculative feeling shows itself in the silk market it lasts only for a short time. In tea, the old axiom, that, come what might, one year in every three must be a splendid one for foreigners, is no longer believed in.

The question discussed by Mr. Goschen has recently again attracted attention at home, in discussions on the appreciation of gold that have appeared in some of the London newspapers. Into that question we do not now propose to enter. But there is one point which deserves consideration when estimating the general fall that has taken place in values. It would have been very instructive and interesting had some writer compiled and published the prices of the various articles in the place of their export to Europe, at the two periods when Mr. Goschen compares their value in London. If the prices of such articles as sugar, coffee, jute and saltpetre, all of which show a very heavy decline in price in Mr. Goschen's tables, have fallen in the countries where they are chiefly produced, as much as tea and silk have in China, a great deal of the diminution in value in England will have been explained. In 1873 the price of common Congous in Shanghai was from 30 to 35 per cent., higher than in 1882; taking the quotations current early in the season. Exchange was also about 15 per cent higher in the former year, while freights were £4 per ton as against £3. The same difference in prices appears, we think, in all grades of tea, except the very finest, for which there is so much competition among buyers for Russia. Now, Mr. Goschen quotes the value of sound common Congou in London in 1873 at 11½d. per lb. and in 1883 at 5½ per lb., the decline being just about the difference between first cost in China, exchange and freight. To these there is probably to be added the saving from the more economical modes of doing business in China that have been adopted of late years. These enable merchants to trade at a profit upon terms that in former times would have left a loss. And this lowers the cost of tea to the consumers. The quotations for silk at the two periods 1873 and 1881 given by Mr. Goschen do not enable us to identify any particular class of silk as instanced by him, and he probably did not refer to China silk. In 1871 the opening price of new season's No. 4 Tsatlees was Taels 460 to 470 per picul, with exchange at 6/1d. per tael. In 1881 Chinese speculators came early into the market and forced up prices, but the opening value of the same qualities of silk would be about Taels 380 per picul, with exchange about 5s. 2½d. per tael. Freights had also declined, and as charges had decreased, the laying down cost in Europe of silk was about 30 per cent less than ten years before. So far as foreign exporters are concerned the results of trading in tea and silk ten or twelve years ago and to-day do not differ much, if at all. Produce is now bought at prices nearer to those that are known to be ruling in Europe than was the case formerly. About 1871 and 1872 buyers here generally gave 2s. per pound for silk over the last received London quotations; but that is very seldom done now-a-days. The price here of raw sugar, which is almost entirely consumed by the Chinese in the north, has declined about twenty per cent. since 1872, no doubt owing to the reductions that have been made in charges of transport etc. And it is highly probable, we think, that most imports of food used by the natives would be found to be cheaper now to about the same extent.

We should not be surprised if an examination into the former and recent values of produce in the countries from which it is shipped to England disclosed something like the same decrease as our own articles show. Economy in conducting business has also become general. Many intermediaries who formerly lived upon commerce are now dispensed with. Mr. Goschen said that he had been told that direct transactions between producers and consumers were now much more common than formerly. That is not the case in China; and we think that the class who have suffered most from the fall in the value of export have been the middle-men. The country people have no doubt had to accept lower prices of late years, but, as the reports of the Customs Commissioners have from time to time showed us, they have managed generally to get more for their goods than these could be sold for to foreigners. Many of the Chinese middle-men have been ruined of late years because of the high prices they were obliged to give in the country for tea and silk, in order to carry on their business.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 28th October arrived here on the 7th inst. by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Yangtsé*.

A mail for Europe leaves to-morrow morning by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Sindh*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED SOLELY TO "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

London, 5th December.

The Russian, French, and United States Governments will co-operate with the English and German Governments for the protection of neutrals in China.

6th December.

The Presidential Message to both Houses of Congress announces the intention to extend the relation of America with Eastern nations; and a surplus of $39,000,000. It also recommends the redemption of the Trade Dollar in bullion.

Sydney, 6th December.

The Conference at Sydney has decided in favour of the annexation of New Guinea with a common action to defray the expenses.

London, 7th December.

The Mahmadi are not advancing on Chartoom and the panic is subsiding.

8th December.

Negotiations continue between Marquis Tséng and M. Ferry.

At Sydney there is some difficulty in the formation of a Federal Council to deal with the common affairs of the Colonies.

10th December.

Another reinforcement of picked Egyptian troops has been completely annihilated by Hillmen close to Suakim, which has created great consternation at Cairo.

The Prince Imperial of Germany is going to visit the King of Italy and the Pope.

11th December.

The French Chamber of Deputies has passed a vote of confidence in the Ministry by a large majority. M. Ferry said it was impossible to suspend the advance upon Bacninh in the absence of a definite basis of agreement.

Mr. Tennyson has been created a Baronet.

Paris, 19th November.

Negotiations have been reopened with China. It is hoped that the attitude of the Chamber and of the extreme Left will induce China to moderate her demands.

Further bodies of African troops are being prepared for despatch.

The colonial budget for 1885 is under consideration. M. Felix Faure has introduced important reforms in it.

The Chamber appears disposed to vote the credits asked for by the Government for the Tonquin expedition. The majority of the committee appointed to consider the matter is favourable.

20th November.

The Tonquin credits will undoubtedly be voted.

The *Mytho* will embark two battalions of Chasseurs d'Afrique on the 24th.

Resignation of M. Challemel-Lacour; M. Ferry succeeds to Portfolio of Foreign Affairs; M. Fallières succeeds M. Ferry. —*Saigon Independant.*

We are informed on good authority that the object of Ma Kien-chung's visit to Shanghai is to examine into the affairs of the China Merchants' S.N. Co.

We hear that the Ningpo Manager of the Vow Kong Bank committed suicide after surrendering himself to the Taotai. There are said to be irregularities in his accounts.

A Correspondent at Jenchuan informs us that five inches of snow fell in seven hours on the 25th November, and that

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the thermometer only registered 19 degrees in the night and 30° at noon.

From Chefoo we learn that a considerable quantity of snow fell there on the 3rd inst.

The other day we requested Father Dechevrens to favour us with some information respecting the beautiful atmospheric phenomena that have been observed after sunset during the past two months. Father Dechevrens has most kindly acceded, and we publish an interesting and instructive letter from him upon this subject on another page.

The Rev. Marc Dechevrens writes further to us as follows :—" A comet was discovered by Mr. Brooks on the 2nd September ; it had then the brilliancy of a star of the tenth magnitude,—circular and tailless. Calculations show that it is identical with that known as Pons's Comet which appeared in 1812. The intensity of its radiance will continue to increase up to the middle of next January ; but then, although it ought by rights to be three or four times more brilliant than in 1812, its luminosity will not exceed that of a star of the third magnitude, and will be far from rivalling the beautiful comets of recent years. With the assistance of a good binocular, it can be distinguished at the present time between six and seven p.m., to the West-north-west, at about 45° of elevation, and 6° or 7° to the north of Wéga, the beautiful star of the constellation Lyra. In our telescope it appears without any tail to speak of, under the form of a dense nebulosity, nearly round, and having already a strong condensation in the centre. Its motion in the sky is sufficiently well marked."

Mr. L. Ferreira notifies that he took charge of the Portuguese Consulate-General at this port on the 6th instant.

We do not know what Mr. Hong Beng Kaw's ideas of a lecture on Chinese Domestic Life may be. But Chinese Domestic Life certainly did not form the subject of his lecture on Thursday evening. He favoured the audience with his views on domestic relations in France and Germany, which, he said, were "notorious;" on the sentiment which prompted the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill in England ; and on the conduct of foreigners, who, he said, came to China and insulted the people and trod (metaphorically) upon their heads. We do not know whether Mr. Hong Beng Kaw has ever had his head trodden upon, but we afraid he lost it on Thursday night. The audience were very forbearing, though many persons left before the lecture was concluded. If Mr. Kaw ventures upon another trial, we should recommend him to write his essay out carefully from beginning to end, and then to read it through. He has plenty to say that is worth hearing, but evidently cannot say it without some such assistance.

We learn that Bishop Schereschewsky has resigned his charge of the missionary jurisdiction of Shanghai, and that the Rev. Dr. George Worthington, of Detroit, has been appointed in his place. We regret exceedingly that the choice has not fallen upon Dr. Nelson, whose claims we consider to have been paramount.

On Tuesday evening, at a meeting of the Shanghai Literary and Debating Society, the Ven. Archdeacon Moule delivered a most interesting lecture embracing his personal experiences of the Taiping Rebellion. The announcement of the lecture attracted by far the largest audience which has ever attended any of the meetings of this Association, the Asiatic Society's room being crowded in every corner and many gentlemen having to stand throughout the reading. Mr. Moule, having been resident at Ningpo at the time of its capture by the Rebels, was able to give a very graphic account of that part of the rebellion which centred in that district, and his reminiscences were listened to throughout with the greatest attention. The Rev. W. Muirhead supplemented the Archdeacon's story of his experiences with his own no less interesting recollections of the Rebellion, and the meeting broke up with a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer.

The Temperance Society gave their second entertainment at the Temperance Hall on Saturday evening. The Ven. Archdeacon Moule occupied the chair in the absence of Mr. Muirhead, and in the course of the evening gave a very amusing and sufficiently brief address, taking as his subject an article which appeared in our daily columns a day or two ago on the subject of tea drinking, and is published in our present issue. The Archdeacon said in the course of his ministrations in China he had been compelled by the hospitable invitation of the inhabitants of the towns and villages, in which he carried on missionary work, to consume large quantities of the beverage, and he had never experienced any of the deplorable results attributed to it by the Dean of Bangor. He advised the audience to dilute their tea with diluted milk, and stick to it in preference to the flowing bowl. A lady amateur played a selection from Flotow's Martha with excellent expression, and received a hearty recall. A well-known baritone, who was in fine voice, pleasantly trolled forth two or three ballads, and some stirring sea songs and recitations from men of the *Curaçoa*, with the usual opening and closing choruses, completed the programme.

The second exhibition of the Shanghai Art Society was held at the Temperance Hall yesterday afternoon, and will be continued to-day. There are some fifty-five specimens of the skill and industry of the contributors, including photographs, water-colour drawings of scenery and pictures taken from life, besides several copies. There are views of Chefoo, Pootung, Bridge near Peking, Ningpo Pagoda, an illustrated album index, head of a Monk, "the Green Man and Still;" "the Strayed Calf;" forest scenery, paintings on terra-cotta plates, and on tiles. Considerable interest appears to be taken by the members and their friends in the Society, and a large number of visitors called at the Hall yesterday to examine the exhibits.

At a meeting of No. 2 Co., S.V.C., held on Monday evening, Sub-Lieutenant Anderson was elected to the post of Lieutenant, rendered vacant by the appointment of Mr. Lanning, to the Captaincy of No. 3 Co. Sergeant Bright was elected Sub-Lieutenant.

If it is not possible in China to purchase another man's ancestors, as Major General Stanley is credited with having done, the Municipal Council have done the next best thing to it, namely to purchase the grave where a Chinaman's ancestors had been lying for a long time. There has been, till recently, a grave in the middle of the ground marked off for Chaofong Road, and in consequence, the Council were unable to extend the road as they wished, notwithstanding that they made a fair offer to the "owner" of the ancestors. The filial descendant's piety was valued at Tls. 3,000 and remained at that figure till recently, when finding that his commodity was a drug in the market, he disposed of it to the Council for Tls. 1,100 and removed the remains of his ancestors to the vicinity of the Bubbling Well Joss-house.

French citizens in Shanghai are enrolling themselves into a Volunteer Corps, and twenty seven members have already joined the Company. Drill is called three times a week at the French Gas Works. So far, the officers have not been appointed, but two instructors take the Company by turns for drill.

The elections of the three additional members of the Legislative Council do not seem to have created much interest in Hongkong. The Chamber of Commerce is to choose one member, and Mr. Thomas Jackson to be unanimously designated ; the Justices of the Peace will elect another, and for this seat there would seem to be four candidates. That is to say, the names of three gentlemen have been mentioned in letters addressed to our Southern contemporaries as persons who would be suitable, and a fourth name appears by the papers just to hand to have been recently suggested. Mr. Belilios is one of the first three, a former member under the auspices of Sir J. Pope Hennessy, a representative of opium and the property interest; Mr. Sassoon, also an opium merchant and in the property interest, and Mr. A. P. MacEwen, described in several letters as young and fluent. Mr. J. J. Francis, Barrister, has also been mentioned as a candidate. The qualifications which Messrs. Belilios and Sassoon possess for the position, are, according to the letters which have been published, their wealth, their both being representatives of Indian interests, and personal qualities which will not be of much service in the Council room. To Mr. MacEwen, it is objected, that the extent of his business is not of such importance as to justify his being chosen, and that being young he can wait. Those objections appear to be of a mischievous character, as Mr. MacEwen is recommended by his personal ability, and seems to be the only candidate so recommended by his friends, and it is a new thing in China for age to be considered a qualification for office or position. We say nothing of Mr. Francis, of whom and whose qualifications, being a barrister, the public have some means of judging. Sir George Bowen has expressed a wish that the official Justices of the Peace should not take part in the forthcoming election, which will reduce the electorate by one fourth. But it seems to us that the Governor is perfectly right in holding that "the officials are already sufficiently well represented, and that it is desirable the new members should be purely the choice of unofficial residents." The new list of justices contains seventy-eight names, of whom some twenty are officials of one kind and another and seven are Chinese, leaving about fifty electors nominally, some being absent. We have not noticed that any Chinese has been suggested for his national seat.

We welcome the appearance, in Calcutta, of a very useful and handsomely printed periodical called the *Indian Review*, "containing the Cream of Current Literature." Nothing could have been devised for persons living in up-country stations which is likely to be more welcome than this well-chosen summary of the best weeklies and monthlies of London. In the number before us we have extracts from the *Nineteenth, Contemporary, Fortnight'y, National, Longman's, Blackwood's, Athenæum, Academy, Spectator*, and *Saturday Review*; and, in addition, several original articles, including literary notices, general notes, and a survey of the preceding month. The object of the promoters appears identical with that of ourselves in compiling our bi-weekly *aperçus* from the mail-papers : to point out to its readers, month by month, the subjects and character of the articles contained in the best reviews and magazines of Europe and America. "The *Indian Review* will reproduce the gist and essence of some of the best of the first-named papers every month, while of those of secondary interest notices will be given with less fulness." It will also point out, to readers living at a distance, "where they may find articles in which they will be interested, and what issues of the Quarterlies, etc., it may be worth their while to buy for themselves." The *Indian Review* is got up rather in imitation of the *Nineteenth Century*, and should command an extensive sale among residents of all nationalities in India.

We are glad to hear that a petition is in course of circulation, to be presented to the Municipal Council, the object of which is the metalling and general repair of the road leading from the Camp to the Point. The outlets of our Settlement, and the

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drives and walks at our disposal, are so exceedingly few, that every effort made to effect an improvement in this direction should be encouraged. We believe the Point is about the only spot in Shanghai where one is almost sure to find a breath of something resembling fresh air during the purgatorial months of summer.

A fire broke out in the roof of a foreign house on Broadway a little before noon on Wednesday, but was extinguished by the inmates and people living in the vicinity before much damage had been done. The alarm was telegraphed from the Hongkew Engine House to the Hongkew Station, but the assistance of the Fire Department and Police was not needed, although the Hongkew Engine turned out.

The new lighthouse on the South East Promontory is now finished, and the light was exhibited for the first time on the 20th November. A description of this light appears in our Daily advertising columns. Mr. D. M. Henderson, and other foreigners connected with the Customs Engineering department, also a number of working employed on the new light-house, returned to Shanghai by the *Yehsin* on the 5th inst.

Captain Sim has taken command of the *Fuyew*, and Captain Croad has been transferred from that vessel to the *Fushun*.

At the Police Court on Monday morning, before Sir Richard Rennie, John Abbott, quartermaster of the *Glenfinlas*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on board his ship, with wilfully damaging property to the value of $5, and with assaulting one Hill, steward of the same steamer. The prisoner had a severe cut over the right eye, and according to his own statement was suffering from wounds all over the body. Mr. Hill, the chief steward, said the prisoner come into the saloon for the purpose of fighting one "Willie," the second steward, and when told to go aft behaved with great violence towards Mr. Hill, shaking him and throwing down several times, until the four h and second officers came to his assistance. The Captain ordered Abbott to be put in irons; when he broke his hand cuffs and smashed a door, doing damage to the amount claimed. The prisoner tried to induce his Lordship to dismiss him on the plea that he had got much the worst of it, the steward having apparently received no severe injuries. His Lordship said it was all very well for the prisoner to say he got the worst of it; but he had evidently gone on board drunk, created a great disturbance and damaged property. However in consideration of the prisoner's having been hurt, he imposed a less severe sentence than he would otherwise have inflicted, ordering Abbott to pay $10 in addition to the damages and cost. A fireman of the *Priam*, named Duncan Campbell, was brought up at the same sitting charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and dismissed with a caution.

The Police succeeded on Wednesday in arresting another Tientsin man, who had returned to Shanghai after being deported. At the Mixed Court on Thursday he was ordered to be imprisoned until the winter is over, and then to be deported to Tientsin. When he heard his sentence, he threw himself on the ground and clung to an old woman, creating quite a scene in Court.

The crew of the *Monocacy* were ashore at Pootung on Wednesday afternoon, and indulged in a sham fight for a couple of hours among the Customs buildings there.

A foreigner, while under the influence of liquor, created a disturbance in Broadway about noon on Sunday. He smashed all the windows of the "Cosmopolitan" public house with his fists and with stones, cutting his wrists rather severely. He then tried to get into the building through a window, but the proprietress pushed him back into the street with a chair. He next interfered with foreigners, and wanted to know if they were policemen. He followed two gentlemen some distance, and, with his hands covered with blood, tried to get hold of them. Two native constables appearing on the scene, they arrested the drunken man and after a hard struggle succeeded in taking him to the Police Station.

A Chinaman belonging to Tungkadoo village, having made up his mind to go to Ningpo, put all his goods on a wheelbarrow and was proceeding to the Ningpo steamer on Monday afternoon; but when abreast of the French Police Station at Kin-le-yuen, he suddenly fell down and expired from apoplexy.

We learn that the *Fuyew* took on board about 150 tons of Kaiping coal outside Taku bar, principally for ballast. The trial of it on the way down has so satisfied the engineer of its good steam-producing qualities, that he has applied for the balance to be put in the bunkers. He describes the coal as giving a good heat, being very clean, and leaving no ashes.

We mentioned last week that the Taotai of Chinkiang was having a steam mandarin-gunboat built. We now learn that this craft is intended to chase salt smugglers.

We learn that the chief officer of the *Ningpo* died on the voyage of the steamer from Canton to Hongkong. He appears to have taken an over-dose of laudanum, and in the absence of other particulars it is permissible to suppose that he took it inadvertently.

An inquest was held at Hongkong on the body of Mr. Hallett, who died on board the *Ningpo* last trip. After hearing evidence from the pantry-boy of the s.s. *Ningpo*, who saw the laudanum bottle taken from the medicine chest; from Inspector Cradock as to the removal of deceased to the Civil Hospital; and from Dr. Wharry, as to his medical treatment and appearance, the jury returned the verdict that "deceased came to his death from taking an overdose of opium, from unknown causes, and that there was no evidence as to the state of his mind at the time."

A peculiar looking craft was to be seen in the Hongkew Creek on Thursday. From a distance, it looked like an ordinary mandarin river gunboat, and on closer inspection it proved to be a vessel of this class, only instead of being propelled by sails and oars, it is to be fitted with a propeller and worked by steam. We believe it is owned by the Taotai of Chinkiang and is intended to go up and down the Grand Canal.

On Wednesday morning, while one of the French collectors was collecting the boat tax, he found that six sampanmen had not paid their licence; and, as is usual on such occasions, he took their yulohs away. Soon after this the sampanmen went after the collector, who was in a boat, and endeavoured to recover the yulohs. They took five away from him, but when they landed, the French Police gave chase and succeeded in capturing one of the men. He was taken to the Mixed Court and remanded, pending the arrest of the others.

The French transport *Correze*, says the *China Mail*, arrived at Haiphong on the 30th November with about 900 men on board. It is stated in Haiphong that 5,000 more troops are being despatched to Tonquin by the French Government.

Extensive preparations, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, are being made in Canton to resist the anticipated French invasion. Every house in the city has been marked with a little yellow placard to the effect that "in the ninth year, it (that is, its inhabitants) has been examined." This is probably synonymous with having been "squeezed," or made to pay a "war contribution." Every shop and house has also to furnish a watchman to guard the street in which it is situated; this may possibly be the commencement of a military force formed on the conscription system. At present the duty required from these budding Wellingtons is to patrol the street at night, and decrepit old men and little boy seem to be eligible for it. They are supplied by the local authorities with a sleeveless jacket similar to those worn over their clothing by Chinese at fires. The inscription simply states the street and ward of the city, to which the watchman, or rather perhaps "special constable," may belong. The principal object of this arrangement is doubtless the preservation of internal order and prevention of riots such as that which occurred on the 10th September last, when the *Hankow* wharf was burnt and so much damage done upon the foreign Settlement of Shameen.

The *Daily Press*, of 7th, learns on good authority, that the authorities at Peking have declared their intention of adhering to the position they have taken upon the Tonquin question to the last, and that they are prepared for the worst.

The *Foochow Herald* has the following:—News reached here on the 2nd instant from Shanghai, stating that the Hangchow banker, Hu Tao-t'ai, who negotiated the Government loan under the guarantee of the Custom Houses, had become bankrupt, and that the branch house called 阜康 *Fow-K'ang* in the City had stopped payment; so the Bank also belonging to China called 裕成 *Yü Chéng* which used to receive the Customs duties, was placed under seal on the 4th instant by the Superintendent of Customs. We are now given to understand that some officials have been sent by the latter to receive such duties. Hu's liabilities are, it is currently reported, estimated at 12 million taels.

The *Daily Press* has this account of rather a strange case:—There is at present a case of possession of counterfeit coinage which offers some difficulties in dealing with a man who was arrested at his house on an information tendered to the police, by Inspector Quincey and P. C. Butlin. In his house a large number of counterfeit dollars, ten and twenty-cent pieces, and some sham broken silver were found. The defendant admitted the possession of the bad money, but said he had been before the Court about a year ago, and had been discharged on the ground that he was a teacher of shroffs, and the bad money was needed to enable him to instruct them how to detect counterfeits. He said that was all he kept the coins for. Inspector Quincey produced the law on the subject, and submitted that it was necessary for the defendant to have a written authority before he could be entitled to be possessed of bad money. Capt. Thomsett said the man was brought before him on a charge on which he had been acquitted before, and the Ordinance only made it an offence where there was no reasonable excuse. The case stands remanded.

We take this from the *Daily Press*:—One occasionally, in all parts of the world, hears of curious finds, often in very unexpected places. The other day, as some contractor's coolies were removing earth from the hillside near Causeway Bay, they came across a treasure trove in the shape of a quantity of native sulphur, adherent in beautifully crystalized lumps and masses to the earth and stones of the soil surrounding them. The appearance was that of having crystalized *in situ*, but the geological formation of the Island entirely forbidding such a supposition the conclusion may be arrived at that the sulphur so curiously found may have been part of some smugglers' cargo, buried by pirates or others in the early days of the Colony and not entirely removed; or it may perhaps have been gunpowder from which the rains have first washed away the nitre, and then, the tropical heat having caused the sulphur to adhere together in crystalline forms, the carbon has finally been washed away from it by the tropical summer rains, which at the depth at which the sulphur was found would percolate through its substance in considerable volume.

The *Daily Press* hears that the China Merchants' steamer *Toonan* has been placed

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under the English flag, and that it is in contemplation to do the same with *Hwai-yuen*.

We take the following pleasing episode from the *Japan Mail*:—The 20th instant being the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Margherita of Italy, Her Majesty the Empress of Japan caused the following telegram to be forwarded to Rome :—

To Her Majesty Queen Marguerita of Italy.

Accept my sincere congratulations upon the auspicious recurrence of Your Majesty's birthday. May Your Majesty enjoy continued prosperity and happiness.

HARUKO, Empress.

Tokiyo, Imperial Palace, November 20th.

The next day, the following reply was received in Tokiyo :—

To Her Imperial Majesty the Empress of Japan.

Deeply moved by the kind wishes of Your Majesty, I thank You most sincerely.

MARGHERITA.

Monza, Royal Palace, November 20th, 1883, 7.05 p.m.

This is the first occasion on which Her Majesty the Empress has addressed a similar congratulation to a European sovereign, and we trust that the happy precedent may be often followed in the future. Japan's recent history justly entitles her to feel that distance no longer bars her admission to the family of Western States and her sympathetic participation in the events of their histories.

We find this in the *Straits Intelligence* :—Says a German paper :—"The total force at the disposition of the Triple alliance—Germany, Austria and Italy—represents 9,734,000 warriors, while France and Russia can only oppose to this 6,300,000. The total number of soldiers for duty in case of a European war is, therefore, 16,034,000, not counting the armies of Holland, Spain, England, and Scandinavian Powers, which countries it is feared would have to take sides in the event of a general European conflagration.

Telegrams in the *San Francisco Chronicle* from various parts of the United States dated 6th and 7th November give the results of some of the elections. Butler had been defeated in Massachusetts by a large majority. In New York a strong Republican majority is elected in the next State Senate, and the *Herald* says it will probably be six in a total of thirty-two. The Assembly is doubtful. The Republican State ticket is elected in New York. In New York city a telegram says, "the vote in this city on State ticket: Secretary of State, Maynard, Dem., 91,526; Carr, Rep., 68,582. Controller, Chapin, Dem., 101,827; Davenport, Rep., 59,615. The returns give the following States as having gone Democratic:—New Jersey, Virginia, Maryland, Mississippi, Kansas, Illinois. And Republican :—Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Minnesota, Nebraska, Colorado.

The *World* tells us that news of a curious invention comes from the south of France. A Frenchman, who has patented a machine for the use of concentrated solar rays as a general motive power, has set up three of his machines in Algeria, for the French Government. He is now carrying on experiments at the island of Proquerolles, near Hyères, where he is threshing Indian corn and raising water by the action of the sun's rays. Sir Charles Dilke has also lent him part of his land at Cape Brun, near Toulon, for his experiments; and he purposes to utilise the sun in boring the holes for blasting, for tree-planting in the hard rocks, as well as in pumping water from the winter wells into the summer cistern.

A copy of the following document, addressed "To the Rulers of Nations, Explorers of the Earth, and Inhabitans (*sic*) of the Globe," has been sent to us. We reprint it *verbatim et literatim* :—

I announce to you that i have discovered the secret of navigating the air in a balloon agains the wind.

I have not yet put in practice my great discovery because the means are still wanting; but long study and repeated experiments have assured me of a successful result and thas in a short time men will be able to navigate round the woold in a balloon.

Now this being in many respects a delicate subject as the peace and tranquillity of the woold might be endangered by the areonaut carrying arms and bombs across the confines of even the most powerful states and so exciting general uneasinep, it may be readily imagined that, desirous as I am that my invention be beneficial to the would and not hurtful, I cannot divulge my segret till I learn the views and intentions of the different governements and so avoid all un necessary susceptibility and the possible effusion of blood and treasure to the alter destruction of all peace and security.

If then my invention he trought worthy of your approbation, I await a reply before publishing my secret.

FRANCESCO MASTRODOMENICO.

Signor Mastrodomenico does not say from whom he expects a reply, or from how many people. If he waits until all the crowned heads and all the "inhabitans" of the world acknowledge the receipt of his manifesto, we fear that his discovery will continue a secret for this millennium at least. The enterprising Mastrodomenico is also in possession of a famous scheme for making everybody rich and saving two hundred thousand million francs per annum. If the potentates of the Universe will only act upon his views, the world, he says, will soon become "an Eartaly Paradise and posterity may bless and revere our memory—in hopes of receiving a favourable answer."

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS.

The Stores this year are maintaining their reputation for skill in catering for the wants of the community at this season, and we believe they have exceeded all previous efforts in this direction, so that it is difficult to make a selection from the vast multitude of objects, useful and ornamental, that meet the eye.

On visiting the largest store in Shanghai, namely, the Hall & Holtz Co-operative Co. the first thing one sees is the motto "Welcome, a Right Merrie Christmas." The immense display within the building is perfectly bewildering. Many of the articles are works of art; for instance, the instantaneous photographs and views, which have been taken with great distinctness. The views of London represent men and horses in motion, some walking and others running, and the feet are so clearly defined, that the photographs seem to have been taken as if the objects were immovable at the time. There are also delicately painted and fine plain photographs of well-known personages, among them the Princess of Wales, in frames of various materials, plush, velvet, wood and metal, and some composed of hundreds of small pieces ingeniously combined; albums and resolving photo stands; a new design for watergoblets, flower baskets, jugs, in imitation of quartz and gold, and very unique. There are numerous articles in porcelain very chaste and neat, including revolving afternoon tea set stands in various designs, also a large variety of terra-cotta ornaments with hanging wall-plates representing heads, figures, and a variety of subjects, card receivers of the same material, in excellent imitation of metals; handkerchief, glove, work, tobacco, and various kinds of handsome boxes in leather, plush, and finely grained olive wood; music boxes playing foreign and Chinese tunes, with drums, bells, castanets and other accompaniments; electro-plated ware in many neat and artistic designs, some for tea and coffee services, scents, liqueurs, water, etc. One set is very handsome indeed, and combines gold and silver plating. Another set is imitation Japanese hammered iron; handsome carvers in case, with highly polished horn handles. The elegant glassware articles are too numerous to describe. There are pianos by Hornung & Moller, travelling harmoniums and organettes, also many kinds of musical instruments. The toys are in great abundance, including mechanical bears beating drums, or climbing a pole in a pit; monkeys nursing infant monkeys; walking and talking dolls, strutting peacocks with a gorgeous tail, steamers, mills, rocking horses, and games. Then there are the crackers, cosaques, bonbons, chocolates, cakes, nuts, flags and cake-ornaments in great profusion, and at the back of all these stands Father Christmas in a grotto, complacently surveying the whole.

Messrs. Mustard & Co. are exhibiting, among other things, specialities for the young people. These consist of organettes with rolls of music, dolls of various kinds, walking, talking, crying, blondes, and brunettes, wax and wood; puzzles, literary, scientific, comic with "Sarah Bernhardt's red gloves"; mechanical toys illustrating negro life in the States, including "Uncle Toms;" "School for Scandal"; velocipedes both toy and serviceable, goblin ten-pins, surprise boxes, printing presses for cards, comic designs in pistols, such as the "Chinese must go"; zithers, miniature bagatelle boards; multiplication-table game, parlour quoits, desks, wooden xylophons, Santa Claus, money boxes designed as bears, bulldogs and mules; Crandall's Mandarin's houses, menageries, and "happy families," with a great many more too numerous to mention.

Messrs. Vrard & Co. as usual have an excellent display of jewellery, some of the articles being valued at $1,100, while some of the watches are marked $500 though a watch can be purchased for $8. There is one very handsome enamelled watch attached to a lady's chatelaine. There is a large assortment of jewel cases and glove and handkerchief boxes; majolica-ware, Bohemian glassware, scent-bottles in stands, writing-desks, mechanical toys of all descriptions, dolls that talk, goats that bleat, and dogs that bark; dolls' houses complete, with garden and fountain; feathered and silk fans, the latter richly worked in flowers; frosted electro-plated tea and coffee services; Christmas cards; coral jewellery, liqueur stands and paint-boxes.

Messrs. Kelly & Walsh are showing some very choice and elegant electro-plated ware, including jewel-cases, napkin-rings of new design, pickle-castors and card-receivers, cake-baskets and *tête-à-tête* sets all richly chased; pencil charms representing dogs, dolphins and clubs; ladies' gold and mother-o'pearl penholders; a large assortment of photo frames, screens and easels in various designs; vases; terra-cotta wallplates, elegant fans, handsomely painted and embroidered, in silk and various materials and colours; many kinds of games, Christmas and New Year cards in great profusion; Shakespeare and other albums, some of them a speciality with padded covers; books too numerous to describe; ornaments of various kinds; water-colour and other drawings; meerschaum pipes, cigar and cigarette holders with amber mouthpieces; the smokers' set, in different styles of wood and leather; liqueur stands and cases; clocks and barometers; inkstands; musical instruments; Church Services, Bibles, and hymn books; toy books; cigars, tobacco and the Wortley Stationery Cabinet, the most complete thing of its kind.

Messrs. Mackenzie & Co. have a choice selection of English, French, American and German stores; bonbons, cosaques, crackers; English and American electro-plated ware and new importations of guns and sportsmen's requisites.

Messrs Noronha & Sons are displaying a good assortment of Christmas and New Year cards and stationery.

Messrs. Sayle & Co., while not exhibiting any special line of Christmas goods, still have a large assortment of useful articles for this season of the year.

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Miscellaneous Articles.

THE PROCLAMATION AT CANTON.

We cannot but think that P'êng Yü lin, Imperial Commissioner for the Defence of the Southern Frontier, has run the risk of a somewhat serious compromise with respect to the extraordinary Proclamation which has been attributed to him. Not the least strange feature about it is that it is addressed, not to Chinese, but to foreigners, and that, being so, it should be placarded about the city of Canton and printed in the Chinese language. Passing this over, however, it cannot be denied that the document is intended as both a warning and a threat, and that its object is more or less an offensive one. First, we are told that the French are seeking to make war on China. Now whether French action in Tonquin be justifiable or not, the statement in this sentence is most certainly far from true. The French may be risking a war; they may be infringing certain limitations which they themselves do not recognise, and which have been arbitrarily defined by China herself; but in no sense can they be said to wish to make war on China if by any possibility it can be avoided. It is very good of the Imperial Commissioner to assure us of the Emperor's desire to treat all people like one family, whether they be foreigners or Chinese. Personally we should very strongly object to being treated by the Emperor of China as he occasionally treats his own subjects, and though the impertinence contained in this assurance is scarcely worth resenting it is an impertinence still. It is not usual for the subjects of Western Powers to seek the "benevolence" of semi-barbarous potentates, and the sooner this fact is impressed upon the convictions of Admiral P'êng and the Government he represents the sooner is it likely that a mutual understanding between China and foreign nations will be arrived at. If a man in the Admiral's position can be betrayed into the use of such expressions in a public document meant for the eyes of Europeans, it is at least fair to conclude that proclamations addressed to Chinese only are couched in terms still more preposterous; that a foreign war is spoken of as rebellion, and that foreign Powers are actually referred to as subordinate states, just as we know to be the case in the Ta Ts'ing Hui Tien. Further we are informed that although China has for a long period wished to send assistance to her "vassal" Annam, she has hitherto refrained from doing so, fearing that such a step would lead to a breach of the peace. We congratulate Annam upon the valuable protection of her suzerain. Here is a country which, according to the Chinese, is virtually Chinese soil. Far removed from the sacred precincts of the Dragon Throne, it has been exposed to the ruthless invasion of a foreign Power, and brought into the deepest distress. But China has not hitherto protected it, fearing lest she herself might suffer. Such is the precise value of China as a suzerain, and this candid admission should, one would think, go very far towards discrediting all such pretensions on her part among her so-called vassals. But the intent of the whole document is to make a scare among foreigners. China, it says, will not be responsible for their safety if war actually breaks out between her and France, and no claim for compensation will be entertained by her in the event of merchandise being destroyed. This is based upon the plea that France has "broken the treaty." Broken what treaty? Does the French treaty with China contain a clause recognising the suzerainty of this country over Annam? Is it for this that foreign merchants are coolly warned that they had better remove their goods and effects without delay, and so escape the impending danger before fighting actually breaks out? If the document be genuine—and it may be genuine in spite of its repudiation as official—we can only say that it here presents a marked contrast to the Imperial instructions issued to the Viceroy of Nanking, who was commanded to take every precaution to prevent any interference with foreign trade, or any injury to foreign merchants, particularly Frenchmen. As we write, Hongkong newspapers have come to hand containing further information from Canton upon this matter. The Admiral is now desirous of repudiating the authorship of the proclamation altogether. It is, of course, always possible to deny responsibility in such a case. Forgeries are not unknown in China. But there is not the slightest doubt, in our mind, that the document contains the views and intentions of the provincial authorities, and that it was allowed to be put forward, unofficially, for a purpose. "The presumption is," writes the Canton Correspondent of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, "that a document such as this would not have been so extensively circulated as this was for several days, without the connivance or assistance of the local authorities. Blocks would have to be cut, and considerable preliminary expenses incurred in its issue. It must also be remembered that for forgery of so gross a nature as this would be, provided H.E. P'êng's disavowal possesses a grain of truth, the punishment is almost certain decapitation; so that it is hard to believe that persons could be got to take so great a risk as the printing and publication of a spurious document, as this is now alleged to be, for the mere sake of showing dislike of or contempt for the foreigner." We believe that this view is as likely as not to be the true one, and that the authorities in Canton have, in effect, issued a ukase they were anxious that foreigners should see, without however rendering themselves liable to such risks as would be incurred by making an official utterance and acknowledging its validity as such.

CHINESE WOMEN OF RENOWN.

If any of our readers have ever attempted to write down the names of the hundred most celebrated women in the world, they have probably found the task a harder one than they expected. The Bible furnishes a few—Eve, the Virgin Mary, Deborah the Prophetess, and perhaps half a dozen more. Greek and Roman history is, of course, tolerably well supplied; English history makes a fair show, beginning with Guinevere and Boadicea down to her present Majesty. But even extending one's range of observation outside the limits of history, and including the names of those women who in our own day or in comparatively recent times have made themselves celebrated in literature or science, it is astonishing how much more difficulty there is in completing the list than would be imagined at the outset. Persons who live in China, however, and are ever so slightly acquainted with Chinese history, will find themselves at a considerable advantage. The female sex appears to have revenged itself for the slight esteem in which it is held by the Chinese, by producing a few very remarkable women; women who have held their own for years against councillors and statesmen, who have competed successfully for fame in the path of literature, and whose names have been handed down from early ages to the admiration of our contemporaries. China has probably never had a sterner or more iron-handed monarch than the Empress Wu; a woman so wicked, so implacable, so remorseless, as almost to suggest doubts of her entire sanity, but at the same time of such extraordinary strength of will as to have usurped the Throne and ruled an unwilling people for more than twenty years. Among the famous literates of China the name of the Lady Pan Chao, the author of 'Lessons for the Female Sex,' stands as high as that of Maria Edgeworth with us. The two Dowagers of the Emperor Hsien Fêng also deserve a place in the scroll of honour; not because we think them particularly beneficent or enlightened rulers, but simply because they will go down to posterity as having guided the great ship of state with tolerable safety during a long term of very troublous years. But perhaps the most celebrated woman of all, in Chinese estimation, is the venerable lady who is known as Mêng Mu—the Mother of Mencius. It seems a little curious that we should hear so comparatively little about the Mother of the earlier and more famous sage. It is known that Mrs. K'ung was a very young woman when she married the father of Confucius, then already an aged man. Desirous

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of bearing him a son, she went one day to a neighbouring temple, burnt incense, and prayed in the usual form. On returning to her house, she was met by a *ch'i-lin*, a fabulous animal uniting the characteristics of the unicorn, the deer, and the ox, and supposed to be the incarnate essence of the five primordial elements; and by this she knew that her prayer was answered. Little more is known of her than this; her fame, if she ever had any, appears to have been swallowed up in that of her illustrious son. It was different with Mencius. His high character is universally attributed to the wise instruction and exceptional character of his mother, who was never tired of impressing lessons of the highest value upon his mind, both by precept and by example. Three times she changed her residence, lest the influences of the neighbourhood should corrupt the heart of her son. The proximity of a butcher's shop, she feared, might induce in him a habit of cruelty, or callousness at the sight of suffering; the proximity of a graveyard, too light an esteem for the dead. The anecdote of her destroying a web of cloth on which she was engaged, as a reproof to her son for idleness at school, is probably known to everybody. The lesson was not thrown away upon him, and the trifling scholar became the Second Sage of China. With these and similar facts as familiar to them as household words, is it not strange that the Chinese should still maintain their ignorantly contemptuous attitude towards women? They acknowledge that, to the wisdom and the good counsels of a widow who lived two thousand years ago, they are indebted in a great measure for some of the most priceless ethics in that political and moral code which they regard, and justly, as the glory of their nation. It can scarcely be denied that Mencius had a stronger and more matured mind than his illustrious predecessor. There is greater freedom of thought, greater liberality of view, less bondage to antiquity, in the works of the Second Sage than in those of Confucius. As was well remarked by a speaker at the late meeting in Peking, when Herr Arendt of the German Legation read a paper on this subject, the mother of Mencius had exercised a double influence—through herself, and through her greater son. The strange thing is that while every true Chinaman would cordially agree with this opinion, and join in praising the virtues of the ancient lady, so little is done in China to elevate the position of women generally. It seems as though the men were afraid of being outshone by their own wives, and actually found it necessary to repress and restrict the play of their natural talents in every possible way. We are told that in former times when a woman gave birth to a girl she lay under the bed on the bricks for three days in token of humiliation; that according to a popular proverb the absence of talent ranks as a virtue in women; and that the whole duty of woman is to bear and bring up children, and make herself the slave of her husband and her parents-in-law. Chinese women, generally speaking, are not famous for their intellectual ability, though they are frequently clever enough to prove a match for their husbands in the affairs of domestic life. China has produced comparatively few famous women, properly so called. But considering the disadvantages under which they labour, it is noteworthy that there have been as many as is actually the case; and we see no reason for doubting that if ever the blessings of education in the true sense of the word are spread over the length and breadth of China, the men will at least have something to do in order to retain their intellectual supremacy over their wives and daughters.

TEA-DRINKING.

Claret for boys, port for men, and brandy for heroes, is an aphorism often quoted, and very frequently abused. Indeed the fact that it was coined by one who was the greatest tea-drinker of his day ought of itself to strip it of all pretensions to veracity. In the first place, there are few boys, we should say, who can appreciate good claret, the generality of the immature vastly preferring a nice, thick, syrupy, port. And we are glad to think that there are not many heroes in the true sense of the word who regard brandy as their favourite beverage. Certain it is that a confirmed brandy drinker is about as far removed from the heroic as any type we know; and if a dose of the strong spirit has the power of producing a certain amount of pluck upon an unaccustomed brain, the effect is at best evanescent, and the pluck itself only that inferior description known as Dutch courage.

Now whether it be that Temperance and Teetotal Associations are really beginning to leaven the population of England, or that the distinction of a Blue Ribbon is becoming generally coveted, there seems no doubt that many people who formerly drank wine drink it now no longer. This is, no doubt, a good sign so far. But it is to be regretted that, in practice at any rate, the word Temperance is understood as applying simply to alcoholic drinks, and that a serious amount of intemperance is observable in drinks which contain other properties almost as deleterious. It is said that the amount of tea that some people will swallow is something absolutely frightening. Of course tea is not intoxicating in the popular sense of the word, but it is exceedingly hurtful if taken in large quantities by persons of a nervous disposition. We believe that strong green tea is neither better nor worse than a slow poison, and that excessive indulgence in it is almost as bad for the system as dram-drinking or chloralism. A terrible picture is given of its effects in one of Dr. Doran's earlier works. An unhappy clergyman, whose brain has become diseased by long addiction to this drug—for such it is—during his hours of study, is represented as the victim of a horrible hallucination which never leaves him, against which he struggles and strives and prays, and which eventually drives him to cut his throat. The author of 'Study and Stimulants' quotes the Dean of Bangor to the effect that tea-drinking, by destroying the calmness of the nerves, is acting as a dangerous revolutionary force, and has created a generation of nervous, discontented people who are for ever complaining of the existing order of the universe, scolding their neighbours, and sighing after the impossible. "Revolution came in with the Chinese herb, and now the growth of Radicalism may be gauged by the increase in the imports of tea." It is true, of course, that the Chinese, who, as the same authority says, have made Conservatism a religion, drink scarcely anything else. But what is the Chinaman's meat—or drink—may very well be the foreigner's poison. The stolid apathy of the representative son of Han can bear a good deal of exciting influence without getting very much excited. It is different with the more delicately organised European, upon whose nerves the poison of strong tea is often seen to work such havoc. A curious experiment has been made recently by an American doctor of its effects upon animals. "He boiled down a pound of young hyson from a quart to half a pint, ten drops of which killed a rabbit three months old; when boiled down to a gill, eight drops killed a cat of the same age in a few minutes. Most tea-drinkers use [each] not less than a pound in three months; yet a pound of hyson contains poison enough to kill, according to the above experiment, more than 17,000 rabbits; and if boiled down to a gill it contains poison enough to kill 10,860 cats in the same time." But it scarcely needed these tests to prove the poisonous nature of tea when drunk too strong and in too large quantities. These are facts within the knowledge, if not the experience, of every man; and the prevailing over-indulgence in the use of tea at the present time is, we believe, a prolific cause of disease. It is even possible that much of the high-strung nervousness and exaltation which characteries the orgies of the Salvation Army is due to the deleterious effects upon the nerves of the enormous quantities of tea consumed by General Booth and all his followers. We read a great deal about the trembling hand and general disquiet observable in those who indulge too lavishly in tobacco; but we doubt whether the ravages even of the fragrant weed are much greater than those of the cheering cup. The spread of nervous disease in civilised communities is a fact which cannot be denied, and which we believe may be accounted for to a very great extent by the growing consumption of strong tea.

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There are very few men in the world possessed of the iron nerves of Mr. Gladstone, who drinks more tea between midnight and four in the morning than any other member of the House, and who is never kept awake by it, however strong it may be. A cup of tea, taken judiciously, even by a person of sedentary occupation, may be a useful stimulant; but it is a stimulant liable to abuse, and, like all others, fraught with disastrous results to those who are subject to its reaction.

Is, then, the use of tea to be universally condemned as a refreshing and invigorating agent? By no means. But the class of persons to whom it is likely to do the least harm and the most good are not brain-workers, but athletes. Given a strong, robust body, accustomed to vigorous exercise, such as prolonged walking-tours, and tea may be drunk with comparative impunity. The severest tests, we are told, have failed to prove that tea is injurious to bodily vigour. The slight excitement of the nerves produced by it under such conditions—the pleasurable irritation, so to speak, which is so exhilarating—finds at once its remedy and its gratification in the vigorous exercise it prompts. If tea is a slow poison to the man of sedentary habits and nervous brain, it is a wholesome refresher to the strongly knit body of the man who lives in the open air. No true pedestrian despises hard-boiled eggs and cold tea as a means of sustaining nature, and here it will be found a most valuable substitute for the brandy flask.

THE MOTHER OF MENCIUS.

(FROM OUR PEKING CORRESPONDENT.)

A paper on the above subject was read lately before the Peking Missionary Association, by Mr. C. Arendt, of the German Legation. Before proceeding to the biography of the mother of the Chinese sage, the lecturer instanced several cases from the history of the period defining the position which woman then occupied, which certainly was not enviable. At no time in China's history has woman's position been enviable, and particularly during the few centuries preceding the Christian era. He instanced cases of deeds of benevolence and virtue—of literary achievements and of Empresses ruling under minors. He then proceeds to detail the incidents connected with the mother of the philosopher, referring to those connected with residence near a cemetery—on the public market and opposite a school; the story of the pork and the web,—all of which are well-known anecdotes retailed about the old lady who was so anxious for her son's proper mental development. He spoke of the etiquette observed in China with regard to woman reverencing their parents, their husband and their sons in the three various relations, and of rules of propriety to be observed in calling at the gate, at the hall, and on entering the room. Dr. Edkins referred to the Roman matrons, to the influence of the mother of the Gracchi upon her children, and then concluded by detailing two or three instances from Chinese history of the influence of woman.

Mr. Wherry thought the mother of Mencius had excited a double influence—through herself and through her illustrious son. He referred to the high toned morality of Mencius and described him as an ethical philosopher.

Dr. Martin, who was in the chair, said that China had produced few distinguished women. There was a great tendency to depress woman. For the higher ideas of women, we must go back to primitive times—to the first pages of the Bible; and concluded by a most felicitous commentary on the passage—"our daughters as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace" (Ps 144.12) which was one of the best things of the evening and one of the Doctor's happiest descriptions.

Dr. Dudgeon spoke of the three flittings of Mrs. Mencius, from the proximity of the butcher's shop where young Mencius saw cattle daily slaughtered, to the neighbourhood of a cemetery and lastly to the precincts of a public school. Under each of these heads he made some very pertinent and practical remarks. (!) He referred under the first to the hardness of feeling engendered by the frequent sights of suffering, cruelty and death; pointing out how it blunts the sensibilities, condemning the slaughtering of animals on the public streets of the capital and incidentally mentioning the exclusion of butchers from sitting in a jury in Great Britain and the execution of the capital sentence of the land within the precincts of the prison as exemplifying the same idea. He thought proximity to the cemetery conducive to serious reflexion but too much even of this would unfit a man for the active duties of life. He quoted old Jeremy Taylor as saying that it is good to knock often at the gates of the grave and speaking of some of the fine cemeteries of the world said they were redolent of Christian hope and immortality. The imitative faculty was so developed in young Mêng that it was extremely hazardous to have him near either the mutton shop or the graveyard. The third item referred to the influence of universities on the life of a people and of the city in which it was located. He spoke too of the foresight and thoughtfulness of the mother in avoiding the two former places for her son and of the general influence of mothers on advancing civilization and especially religion and ended by saying give me the mothers of China and you may do what you please with all others.

Mr. Owen said that reference had been made to Ruler for Women by that celebrated woman T'sao T'ai-ku. Those rules form the first part of the well-known work "The Four Books for Women," and on the second leaf, it is said that in ancient times when a mother gave birth to a girl she lay under the bed on the bricks for three days in token of humiliation. This statement is the key note of a good deal of what we find in Chinese books regarding women. Chu Fu-tsz talks sneeringly of "Rustic bravery and woman's benevolence." In the Female Classic we are told that women are most incorrigible and need constant teaching (Nü erh chia tsui nan hwa, hsü zao t'sung hsiao tao ta.) The two sins of women are said to be indolence and impudence. There is an old proverb which says "The absence of talent is a virtue in woman" (Nü tsz wu t'sai pien shih teh.) A glance over the books prepared for the instruction of girls shows with painful clearness the low estimate in which they are held. For boys there are such books as the "Trimetrical Classic," the "Thousand Character Classic," the "Great Learning," "Analects of Confucius" and some containing the best thoughts of the best men of China. Contrast with these the books specially prepared for girls such as the Nü Erh Ching and the Female Four Books. Chinese boys are taught as if each were to be a king, Chinese girls as if they were only slaves. They are never taken beyond the kitchen and the scullery. Take for instance the "Female Classic." It begins by giving the duties of a girl from seven to twenty, a series of trifles about getting up early, sweeping the house and showing due respect to her superiors. Then follows a summary of the duty of woman which is comprised in the "Three Obediences" and the "Four Virtues." The former are, when young to obey her father and mother, when married to obey her husband and when a widow to obey her son. The latter are good behaviour, personal cleanliness, reserve in speech and frugal management of the household. Further on we are told that the whole duty of woman consists of ten things: piety towards her parents, respect to her elders, frugality; serving others before eating herself, cleanliness, honesty, humility, industry, chastity and in all things endurance. In the Female Four Books, a much more pretentious work, we have little more than a ringing of changes on the Three Obediences and the Four Virtues. Much is said in this book about female deportment. When walking, women must not look back, when speaking must not open their mouths wide, when sitting must not move their knees, when standing must not shake their skirts; must not laugh or speak loudly. This is the sort of instruction which China provides for her women. On one point, however, all husbands will agree that Chinese notions are admirable! Wives are taught to yield absolute obedience. The husband is the head of the wife just as heaven is the head of earth. Wives are warned not to strive for the mastery, for "When the hen rules the roost and takes to crowing, the family is near to ruin." When the husband sings, the wife should join in the refrain. He commended these admirable sentiments to all wives! But joking apart, the Chinese have some very just sentiments regarding woman and in some things acknowledge her influence and power. In household management all depends upon her. Her immense power over her husband and home is fully recognised in such common sayings as "ch'i-hsien fu kuo shao"—when the wife is virtuous, the husband's faults are few; and "ch'i-hsien ho ch'ou chia pu fu"—when the wife is virtuous what need to fear poverty? The mother's influence over her children is well understood. The mental character of children is said to be derived from the father, the moral disposition from the mother. Her influence is supreme and all pervading during childhood. Children, too, are required to yield the same reverence and obedience to the mother as to the father. And the laws of mourning for both are the same. It is matter for surprise that the Chinese should hold the low ideas of women which they seem to do. Their history contains many illustrious female names. The two wives of Shun were noble women and are supposed to have greatly assisted him in his government of the Empire. Wen-wang is supposed to have owed much of his success to one of his wives. Ts'ao Ta'i-ku of the Han and Sung, Joh Chao of the T'ang are both illustrious names in literature. There is the Empress Wu Tseh-tien also.* Even in the San-tsoching, two girls are cited, one for her knowledge of music and the other for her skill in poetry. Chinese women have shown themselves worthy of a higher place than they have been allowed.

* One of the vilest women who ever lived. —ED.

REVIEW.

The China Review. September and October, 1883.

WE have already reproduced what is undoubtedly the most interesting article in the present number of the *Review*—that on the Tributary Nations of China. The thanks of foreigners at large are certainly due to Mr. G. Jamieson for this *exposé* of Chinese ignorance and assumption, and it is a nice question whether a Minister might

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not, with justice, represent to the Chinese Government the gross impropriety of including independent Powers among its vassal states in the standard Code of the country. He might at the same time take advantage of the opportunity to correct a few of the more outrageous historical and geographical blunders with which the book abounds. It would at least be interesting were such a Minister to ask Prince Kung in a friendly way in what sense England could be considered a tributary of China's; whether he really and honestly considered it to be so; if not, why it was included in the same list as Corea, Burma, and Liuchiu; and to point out that, as the pretence is so false and foolish in the case of England, Italy, and Holland, it is fair to conclude that it might be equally so in the case of the others that are mentioned. While we are upon the subject it may be as well to give the section which sets forth the claims of China to suzerainty over Annam:—

"Yueh-nan. The name of this country was originally Chiao Chih. It was afterwards known as Annam and is now called Yueh-nan. In the 5th year of K'ang Hsi [1666] the hereditary Prince of Annam, Li Wei-fu, delivered the patent and seal which had been granted by the Ming Emperors and a patent was thereupon issued for the first time constituting him King of Annam. In the 5th year of Kien Lung [1789] the Li family lost the Kingdom, and Yuan Kwang-ping, who had been brought to the front as Chief of the Kingdom, submitted the country to China and a patent was issued investing him as king. In the 7th year of Chia Ching [1802] Yuan Kwang-tsan lost the kingdom in turn, and the chief of the Nung-nai country, by name Yuan Fu-ying, sent an envoy to present a letter and carry tribute to the Court of China. He also captured and handed over certain pirates who had ravaged the coast of Fukien and Kwang-tung, and he delivered up the old patent and seal of the Kings of Annan. His services and submission were acknowledged by the Emperor, who, by decree, ordered the name of the country to be changed to Yueh-nan and issued a patent investing him as King.

Dr. Lockhart's Index to the Phonetic *Shwoh Wên* is a stiff piece of work; so, too, is Dr. Edkins's article on the *Yi Ching*, with Notes on the Sixty-four Diagrams. This is, however, a valuable contribution to the controversy now so merrily progressing between Dr. Legge and M. de la Couperie at home. The *China Review* may be congratulated upon having secured the aid of the Rev. B. C. Henry, whose itineraries have hitherto formed so pleasing a feature of the *Chinese Recorder*. We are not aware what has led to Mr. Henry's transference of his articles from one magazine to the other, but there is no doubt which of the two is the gainer. The close of his journey through Hainan, which appears in the present number of the *Review*, is a charming and graphic piece descriptive writing. The following tragic story affords an apt illustration of the unjust and inconsequent method according to which Chinese punishments are dealt out. A man is as often as not punished for a misfortune, for what is acknowledged to be a misfortune and nothing more, but for which he is held responsible by the absurd theories of government in China; and the sequel is characteristic enough:—

In the spring of 1882 there was an outbreak of the mountain Lo on the south of the Island, near Sam-a. A Brigadier General, with an army, was sent to quell the disturbance, but found himself in a low, malarious district, where his soldiers sickened and died, while the enemy, safe in their impenetrable jungle, defied him. With more conscience than usually belongs to his class, he disdained all subterfuges, and, as a consequence, months passed and no results appeared, except the constant diminution of his little army by sickness and desertion. For this want of success he was degraded from his office and sent into retirement near the scene of his failure. In his place a Tao-tai was sent to command the expedition. He at once began a system of bribery and deception, and in the end succeeded in inducing the Le chief who headed the hostile tribes, to visit his camp to arrange terms of peace. To accomplish this, besides presents of money and promises of security, the Taotai sent four common soldiers as hostages, assuring the chief that two of these were his own younger brothers and the other two mandarins. No sooner was the Le chief within his power, than he was put in irons, sent on board a gunboat and carried up to Canton, where he was, soon after, executed. And what became of the four hostages? The Les, aroused to fury by the treachery practised upon them, wrecked their vengeance in a fearful manner on these hapless victims, flaying them alive, it is said, to appease the wrath of the people. Such occurences are not likely to promote friendly relations between the two races.

An amusing incident, suggestive of the old story of the Three Crows, is told in the same paper. While Mr. Henry and his servants were preparing to start from an inn, one of the bearers entered, saying that a band of robbers was preparing to attack the town. "Half paralysed with fear, his yellow face had turned to a pale green hue, giving ghastly emphasis to his words as he urged us to fly instantly." The city gates were shut, and the inhabitants prepared to flee. At last, when the panic was at its height, calmer and more credible reports began to gain the day, and finally the "several thousand" robbers dissolved into five poor men, who were being chased by some incensed villagers on a false suspicion. The rest of the number is devoted to notices of New Books, and the usual Notes and Queries. The former are unusually good, and here the *Review* has a distinct advantage over the *Recorder*, which is famous for the poverty of its literary criticisms. An item in the Chinese notes will no doubt amuse our readers. It is well headed an odious comparison:—"A Cantonese saying is that a man is at his prime at thirty, but that a woman of that age is but old tea-dregs."

THE FRENCH-MAIL PAPERS.

Our jottings from the papers just to hand will be for the most part literary. There is only one article on the Franco Chinese difficulty which calls for notice, and that is in the *Saturday Review*. We are afraid our French friends may scarcely relish the somewhat outspoken criticisms of the writer; but in dealing with a question of such great potential interest to the civilised world some degree of latitude must be allowed. After all, charges may be brought against a nation which are not intended to apply to individuals. Certainly the article on France in the *Saturday* is the most candid—even brutally candid—expression of opinion that has yet been contributed to the literature of the subject. The operations of the French in Annam are pourtrayed in the blackest of hues. Speaking of the benefits which are expected to accrue from the Annamese expedition, the writer in the *Saturday* says:—

Neither are we without means of knowing how the blessings of civilization are being carried into Annam and Tonquin. The threats of M. Tricou were not uttered in vain. Prisoners have been shot in cold blood throughout the French operations. If any confidence can be placed in the *Figaro*, which has frequently been guilty of drawing on its imagination for its facts, the operations at Huê were followed by a hideous massacre. The men of the French squadron not only shot down the Annamite soldiers as they fled, which is undoubtedly according to the customs of war, but they killed the wounded who lay helpless on the ground. The witness who reports these atrocities declares that the French sailors refused to obey their officers, who tried to control them. Stories of this kind are current about the Indian Mutiny. Many things were done during the suppression of that revolt which our officers dared not try to prevent; but it will scarcely be maintained that the army which stormed Delhi and the force which reduced Huê without the loss of a single man had received equal provocation. The whole story may be the forgery of a Parisian journalist who wishes to discredit the existing Government at any price; but it is characteristic that he should have thought such a story plausible. But it is by no means likely that it is a lie. It agrees far too well with what is known to have happened in Tunis. Wars with enemies whom they feel confident of beating always bring out the natural brutality of the French.

Further on we have the more serious charge of "bullying the weak and cringing to the strong"—to quote the Chinese proverb. The reproaches are, however, levelled more at the Parisian press than at the French people:—

For months the first papers in Paris, and the provinces too, poured forth insult and provocation to their hearts' delight. But gradually they began to be conscious that their example was being followed and their ideas were being assimilated with more zeal than judgment. M. John Lemoinne, and journalists of his standing, wished to act on the principles attributed to an earlier satirist, who was terribly severe when he had to deal with a lady, but very civil to a dragoon. They defied England, which they knew to be peaceful, with the courage and eloquence of Pogram; but they were coldly courteous to Germany.

Leaving politics, however, for the calmer arena of literature, we find that the most interesting subject in this week's papers is the autobiography of Anthony Trollope. Judging from Mr. Trollope's own words, he must have been a most unpopular, exasperating, disagreeable dunce, during the whole of his schooldays and even later on in life. He was constantly being flogged by his masters and bullied by his schoolfellows. At the age of twenty-two, when he went into the Post-office, he confesses that he did not know the multiplication-table. His childhood was an utterly wretched one; nor can we altogether wonder at it, when we have his own confession that there were twelve years of tuition in which he never knew a lesson. He has been described later in life as "banging about the world like an east wind," and as very fond of "tossing and goring." How is it possible that such a very unpromising youth could have developed into one of the most gifted and charming novelists of the century? The *Spectator*, in its usual philosophical vein, discusses the problem, and suggests a solution of it from the following curious experience told of himself by a writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette*:—

"I was born north of the Tweed. Death too soon appeared in my home, and I was cast out on what I found to be a cheerless and callous world. I begun to question fate, and wondered why my lot should be so hard. I became fond of solitude. I did not even dream of the future. I could see nothing beyond the cruel present, with its daily, deadening drudgery. But there came a change. I was on my way one clear and sharp winter night to my lonely garret lodging, when I paused on the bridge across which I had to pass. I leaned over the parapet, and was gazing down on the black depths below, when suddenly I experienced a mental change which altered the whole current of my being. I could not account for it nor analyse it then, and cannot do so now; but there it was. A wide vista of hope and possibility was spread before me. I seemed in an instant to have entered on a new and nobler stage of life. I had suddenly awakened to a perception of the beautiful, although the light was yet dim."

"Why," asks the *Spectator*, "should not the true explanation of Anthony's Trollope's boyhood be that he, the clear-sighted novelist, able man of business, and successful public servant, actually was, till he was twenty-five, a disagreeable dullard?" There are some men whose minds do not grow, but "break through" a sort of outer shell which, up to a certain age, has confined their faculties. Both the *Spectator* and the *Saturday* have very interesting reviews of Mr. Percy Greg's book 'Without

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God: Negative Science and Natural Ethics.' Mr. Greg is an able exponent of what may be called Conservative pessimism, and although he carries his theories too far there is much acuteness and wisdom in his pages. Akin to this book is Bishop Harvey Goodwin's 'Walks in the Regions of Science and Faith.' The concluding sentences of the *Saturday's* notice are so suggestive that they may be properly introduced here:—

The first hypothesis stated by the Bishop, "that there may be an evil God who desires pessimism," is more than "an excruciating hypothesis," as he calls it. It involves a contradiction in terms; for a God who is not "The Good" cannot properly be a God. He would be a devil. It is not hard to show that even if Mr. Mill's alternative involves no intellectual contradiction, as he contended, it involves polytheism rather than theism; for if the power of "the Highest" to do His good will be limited, there must be a force or forces in the universe nearly as strong as His own, and if men believe in the existence of forces so strong, they will be sure to worship them, even although they believe them to be evil.

'Anglo-Israelism' is the title of another most interesting and readable article in the *Saturday*. Of course, as the writer observes, the Anglo-Israelite craze is too absurd to require or even admit of refutation. But the pseudo-science is as curious and full of legend as Masonry itself, and the ritual—for it actually seems to have a ritual—includes a most remarkable piece of doggrel called the Song of the Stone. The reference of course is to the Coronation Stone in Westminster Abbey, which, according to the Anglo-Israelites, is the stone on which Jacob slept at Luz:—

Yes; we're Jacob's own flesh, blood, and bone;
For to us has come down Jacob's stone.
Our lot was wrapped up with his own,
When he pillowed his head on that stone.
And, of glories the crown and the cone,
Is this heirdom of Jacob's old stone.
Though to wonder all others are prone,
We'll hold fast by old Jacob's old stone.
And, may this for all errors condone,
That we've got, and will keep Jacob's stone!

The *Pall Mall*, which seems to be blossoming into an illustrated paper, is full of readable and instructive articles, among which we specially recommend 'The Plainest City in Europe,' 'A Noble and Needful Work,' and 'The Utilisation of Castles.' 'The Bitter Cry of Outcast London,' a pamphlet which has created an immense sensation, has had the effect of inundating the *Pall Mall* with letters on the subject of the houses of the London poor. A few are selected out of the mass of correspondence, and appear in the present issue. The *Athenæum* is a fair average number, but contains nothing of exceptional interest. We cull the following from the column of Literary Gossip:—The opening chapters of 'The Silverado Squatters,' Mr. R. L. Stevenson's new set of *impressions de voyage*, will appear in an early number of the *Century*. The work will be published in England in book form by Messrs. Chatto & Windus.—Cardinal Manning contributes to the forthcoming number of *Merry England* an article on 'Courage,' accompanying which is a drawing by Mrs. Butler, representing soldiers under fire.—The committee appointed for the revision of Luther's German translation of the Bible has finished the first portion of its task, and has decided to publish a provisional "revised version." This will appear in the course of the next few weeks, and will contain the text decided upon by the committee. Criticism with then be freely invited from every quarter, and the results embodied in the definitive text, which may be looked for in 1885.—'"Laissez-faire" as a Principle of Government' will be the subject of Mr. Goschen's address next week at the opening of the coming session of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution. During the winter lectures will be given by Dr. Walter C. Smith, on Edward Irving; Principal Caird; Prof. Ball; Prof. Butcher, on 'Ancient Theories of Art'; Mr. Mark Napier, on Egypt; Mr. Fred. Harrison, 'On the Nationalization of the Land'; and Mr. H. Herkomer, A.R.A., whose subject will be 'Conventionality and Proportion in Art.'—The death is announced of Capt. Mayne Reid, the well-known writer of books for boys. Capt. Reid, who spent some years in the United States, and distinguished himself in the Mexican war, commenced his literary career in 1849, and brought out between 1850 and 1870 an immense number of novels and tales, which delighted boy readers by their vigour and by the terrific adventures and hairbreadth escapes with which they were filled. Of late years he, like Gustave Aimard, lost to some extent the favour of his public. His readers became tired by the repetition of plots very similar in kind, and perhaps his own spirits flagged somewhat as he grew older.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

I hear that the Customs Tao-t'ai has acknowledged to the French Consul the authenticity of the Imperial Edict which has attracted so much attention. The War Party is slightly in the ascendant. It numbers among its more prominent members P'êng Yü-lin, Tso Tsung-t'ang, and the Seventh Prince. It was in fact to please P'êng that the Edict was issued, just as happened in 1880 during the Russian embroglio, to please Tso. But the Empress will never consent to let the Manchurian Funds be used for military operations, and the very last thing desired by the Court is war. The affair will doubtless be settled in some such manner as the Kuldja difficulty.

Kaiping mines are rising still. To-day Tls. 150 has been refused for scrip. It is said that satisfactory arrangements have been come to between Wu, the manager, and the Seventh Prince respecting the working of the Tsz-tang coal and iron mines. Mr. Wu is expected here from Peking in a few days.

Dec. 3rd.

THE POLICING OF HONGKONG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

I am now in a British Colony, and have taken it into my head to study the police organization. As you know, the Hongkong police is composed of Europeans, Sikhs and Chinese, and I must say the whole force is by far superior to that of Shanghai. The Europeans of course are able men who dare to do their duty; they face danger, and are good disciplinarians. The Sikhs get along very well with the Chinese, and are by no means rough, as was charged upon them by some ratepayers at the last meeting. They do their work effectually in keeping order on the streets and putting down disturbances. They can talk a little Chinese; they learn the language faster than Europeans, and they pick up some English too. The native police when compared with the Shanghai Chinese are really admirable. They do not carry their heads up and flourish their clubs as if ready to strike on the slightest provocation. They are orderly, and I have not heard them use one foul word. I have visited some most crowded and ill-reputed streets, when native police and Sikhs have been standing about in dozens, and I have not seen a single baton pulled out of the leathern case, which is attached to the belt. The Shanghai Chinese police consider themselves far above their own countrymen, while the native force here know their duty and put on no airs. I have inquired of some respectable Chinese gentlemen their opinion concerning the Sikhs, and they say that the Sikhs have proved excellent police and that they did not see why they should not prove as good police in the Shanghai settlement. They have nothing to complain of in the native constables either, but, on the contrary, say that they are a serviceable and dutiful set of men. The detective system of Hongkong is excellent. As far as my knowledge is concerned, no such odious charges as have been made against the Shanghai detectives have been applied to the Hongkong secret agents. The great city of Canton sends hordes of criminals and all offenders into Hongkong, and yet it is marvellous how crimes are detected and brought to justice. There are over 700 men in the police force in the Colony to keep order, and that is about 500 more men than at Shanghai. But the very fact that so large a number of men, composed of three nationalities, are free from the slightest charge of corruption, shows far superior management to that of Shanghai, the force of which, especially the native portion, both detectives and police, is constantly accused of receiving bribes and squeezing. Now, however, that Mr. J. P. McEuen is going to assume the functions of a superintendent, it is to be hoped the model settlement will have a model police.

Chinese merchants are still in great fear of a war between France and China, and the money market is very tight. The Viceroy Chang is working hard on the harbour defences of Canton. Admiral P'êng has arrived at Canton with 10,000 men.

CANTON.

We have experienced an agreeable lull after the late stormy scenes, amidst which very little has transpired. The newspapers keep the people in a constant state of ferment, generating more or less ill-will against foreigners amongst certain sections of the people, who group all the foreigners under the generic term "foreign devil," and know no distinction of nationalities; while the better educated, and the traditionally hostile literati are more disposed to be friendly with and seek information from the subjects of friendly powers.

We are still guarded by the militia on Shameen and Canal Road, and H.M.S. *Linnet*, the U.S. *Juniata*, and the French *Lutin* are still anchored off the bund. The Jacks have behaved remarkably well so far, thanks to their officers for keeping them off the grog shops.

I hear that the *Juniata* is about to be replaced by the *Essex*, a smaller vessel, and that the *Linnet* is to be relieved by the *Fly*. I hope this last item is untrue. At times of excitement like these when the people are abusive and the words "kill" and "butcher" are repeatedly shouted at the foreigner as he passes, and when a collision with foreigners may occur any day, it would be utter and complete insanity to think of placing us under the protection of a miserable steam-launch. I am not a pessimist; only a British growler who rebels heart and soul against that ofttimes fatal policy of his government which measures the possibilities of to-morrow by the security of yesterday.

3rd December.

There has been a deal of excitement in the streets to-day on account of a proclamation issued by P'êng Yü-lin. It states, *inter alia*, that in the event of war, the people will be unable to distinguish one foreigner from another, or the flag of one nation from that of a hostile power; that according to international law, any vessel can be seized and confiscated by China; that foreigners had better get their goods together and clear out, for should any trouble arise and property be burnt or pillaged, China will not be responsible; foreigners will then have

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to apply to France for compensation. The proclamation is addressed to foreigners and is posted in the streets, and printed copies sold by hundreds of hawkers. It has already borne fruit in the partial destruction of a new preaching hall just erected at the expense of the Baptist native Christians.

What the Imperial Commissioner means by posting a proclamation in the streets addressed in Chinese to foreigners I cannot understand. The people take it to mean that the *fan kwei* must go and that nobody will protect him if he remains.

War material is being carried into the city every day and every street provides several companies of militia ready to turn out to do battle.—*China Mail Corr.*

5th Dec.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS IN CANTON.

As will be seen from our Canton correspondent's letter, the Chinese Admiral P'êng Yü-lin, who was commanded by the Emperor to proceed with 2,000 men from the Yangtsze Kiang to investigate the state of affairs on the Two Kwang frontiers, arrived in Canton yesterday. We learn that he has served all foreigners in Canton with an official intimation, the purport of which is as follows :—

I, P'êng, Imperial Commissioner, do publicly notify that, as the French are about to make war against China, it is necessary that our nation should make proper preparations ; and it is also desirable to give notice to every foreign country which has for many years been in treaty with the Chinese Empire that war is imminent.

His Majesty the Emperor desires to treat all people, foreigners and Chinese, alike, whereby every one may reap the benefits of His Majesty's benevolence.

China does not wish needlessly to make war with foreign countries. Every nation knows that the French have been fostering ill-feeling towards us, by their interference in Annam, over which China has held sovereignty for myriads of years, Annam sending annual tribute to the Emperor in acknowledgement of our suzerainty. The French (aware of all this) presuming on their strength, have acted arbitrarily and in violation of their treaty with us, and have made war in Annam. China has for a long time wished to send assistance to her vassal Annam, but fearing that the peace hitherto observed between the two countries might thereby be broken, has until now refrained from affording such assistance.

The French Minister, Monsieur Tricou, arrived at Tientsin about a month ago in a French man-of-war, and it was reported that it was his intention to despatch other French vessels of war to attack Canton. This, however, was probably only a mere ruse on the part of the French to frighten the Chinese; it is difficult to fathom the truth or falsity of the rumour. The Emperor, angry at these reports, has despatched me to Canton to assume the military command here ; and I have got together all the available forces both on land and at sea, with the object of defending Canton from the French should they attack us.

France will be responsible if war ensues. In the event of war, however, the vessels of neutral nations may be mistaken, by the Chinese, for those of the French, and difficulties may be occasioned thereby. It is therefore my duty to issue this notice.

The Chinese Government has already issued a notice to the various foreign legations, but I must, notwithstanding, let it be known, so that foreign merchants may remove their goods and effects in time before the fighting actually commences. Neutral vessels must also observe the treaty stipulations, and the rules of international law. After this notice, neutral vessels which may be captured by the French cannot blame China for not having given them warning, and this caution also refers to any merchandise which may be destroyed during any fighting on land. Any claims for compensation must be made on the French, and not the Chinese.

We understand that Admiral Pêng made his journey overland to Canton with a force of troops. Over one thousand men also passed through this harbour to-day in the *Fushun, en route* to Canton.—*China Mail.*

5th Dec.

This morning some excitement was caused by the landing of P'êng's troops, and there was a rush along Canal Road to witness the affair. Some Chinese, not knowing what the rush meant, began to enquire, and immediately the cry was raised *kou fan-kwai la, P'êng yam-chai kou fan-kwai la*—"the Ambassador P'êng is driving out the foreign devils." Before long, a man came into my room, saying that a mob was attacking a newly erected chapel belonging to the American Baptist Mission. One cause—the main cause perhaps—of the riot was the fact that over the chapel doors was an intimation that the chapel belonged to men of the Flowery Kingdom, it having been erected by subscriptions from Chinese. That a preaching room should be held by a foreigner may be tolerated, but that the enlightened Sons of Han should erect a hall for preaching the Gospel, is, in the minds of the populace, a sort of out-heroding Herod.

Presently another messenger arrived with the intelligence that the chapel was rased to the ground. That, I think, is rather overstated, but the roof, I believe, is all broken in and the work of destruction pretty well carried out. The excitement after this spread, and I never saw a number of people so panic-stricken as the number of Chinese I was brought in contact with for the next few hours. The wildest reports for a time spread about. All native Christians were to be killed first and then the foreigners were to be attacked. News leaflets were hawked in the streets, and to puff the sales the men were heard crying out that P'êng Yü-lin had come to carry out the Emperor's commands, which were that all foreigners should be murdered. The excitement ran high, but I think we may congratulate ourselves that the worst is over. Shameen has felt little or nothing of this ; probably the presence of the gunboats has kept back the mob.

I believe the authorities are very desirous to preserve the peace and are no doubt exerting themselves strenuously. Still, that a mob can do so much damage whilst there are thousands of soldiers in the city is another proof that we cannot trust to the activity and energy of the Chinese Government to protect either our lives or property. There was considerable excitement in the city yesterday, but not one of the Consuls knew until nine o'clock last night. Then Consul Seymour immediately took the matter up. But to-day the excitement ran higher, and culminated as above, and now there are upwards of 200 soldiers to protect the ruins. I suppose they are to prevent the mob from building up the place again, for it puzzles me why they should protect a ruined place.

There is a strong feeling against the Viceroy, who is denounced on placards as a traitor, who, instead of avenging the wrongs of the people, has protected the foreigners. The position of Governor here is anything but enviable. "Better to reign in hell than serve in heaven" says Milton's lost Archangel, but I understand the Viceroy will rejoice when he ceases to reign in this horrible place. If we judge from our environments we, with more plausibility than Jane Welsh before marrying Carlyle, may date our communications "Hell."

I hope the Hongkong Government will keep an eye on the native press at this time, and that we shall not be left with only "H.M.S. *Fly*." We are moderately well off now and we trust that the naval force at this port will not be reduced under present circumstances.

RUFUS.

P.S.—The Missionaries of long experience here regard the circumstances as very grave. A report got out that one of the Wesleyan Mission Chapels had been attacked, but this proved untrue.—*China Mail Corr.*

5th Dec.

THE FRENCH IN TONQUIN.

Haiphong, 29th November.

Since my last letter, I am sorry to have to record the unfortunate death of Monsieur Dufreuil, Chief of the Administrative Service, and Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, which happened on the 26th inst. M. Dufreuil was, apparently, in his usual good spirits, engaged in his office attending to business, on the morning of the 26th, when he was seized quite suddenly with a fit of apoplexy, which carried him off. Although the deceased officer had only resided here for a short time, he had, by his genial manners and genuine worth, succeeded in making himself beloved and esteemed by Europeans, Annamites and Chinese alike, and he is sincerely regretted by a large circle of friends. Great sympathy is felt for Madame Dufreuil and her son ; the latter is also in the service. The remains of the deceased officer were interred to-day with military honours, in the presence of the whole community, who paid this last tribute of respect to one whom they had honoured when living. *Momento Mori.* Turning now to Hai-duong, or rather what was once Hai-duong, I find that this affair has been more serious than I at first anticipated. Hai-duong was a town of over 40,000 inhabitants and a centre of commerce in the province, but it may truly be said that it exists no longer. Between the bombardment of the French and the incendiarism of the Chinese the place has been reduced to a ruin, not a brick left standing. The Chinese merchants had to clear out, and carried nothing with them but the clothes in which they stood at the time. All their property was destroyed, and they were fortunate to get away with sound limbs. *En guerre comme à la guerre.*

The gunboat *Carabine* had eight of her crew wounded, and it is said that they swept up quite a basketful of bullets after the fight was over.

Affairs generally do not look very promising here at present. The country is in open revolt all round, general anarchy is reigning supreme, the mandarins do not exist as such any longer, piracy is the order of the day, the country is ruined, and the Chinese have helped to land us in this confusion. This is about the position of matters in Tonquin.

From Hanoi we have little news. Things are kept very dark at present. It appears that Sontay has been bombarded during the last few days, but nothing certain is known as to the result of the attack. As a matter of fact we only know that our steam-launches are all up there somewhere. My opinion is that to settle the Tonquin question and to place the country once more under administrative rule,—which it certainly is not at present—it will require 20,000 men more, exclusive of the 6 000 now on their way out. It is not enough to say one has occupied a country ; it must be done. With the exception of four or five positions, how much of Tonquin has been occupied by the French? As to China, the French are already at war with that country. China is pouring troops into Tonquin as fast as she can, and yet there is no declaration of war. The position is simply that when the Chinese are beaten they fall back into Chinese territory, recreate, recruit, refresh, and return to commence anew. That will be the result.

Mr. Colquhoun's article on Tonquin I declare to be utter bosh. All the opportunity this gentleman has had of making

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himself acquainted with the country is this. He arrived here from Hongkong, took a trip in a river steamer up to Namdinh, stayed there three hours, thence went to Hanoi, where he stayed six hours, and then he returned to Haiphong and went back to Hongkong. Mr. Colquhoun is credited with the possession of abilities of a high order and he seems to pride himself on his capacity for judging of a country. To judge a country is well enough in its way, but it is better to see the country first. It makes one feel disgusted to see such stuff written by a gentleman who bids for the support of the Chambers of Commerce.

Haiphong is quiet and seems pretty safe. Reinforcements of 1,000 men have arrived. From a military point of view I think the place was never in much danger; the only question is as to the commercial town, lest the Hai-duong affair should be repeated here. This is what has to be guarded against.—*Daily Press Corr.*

Haiphong 26th November.

Although no active operations against Sontai and Bachninh have yet been undertaken, two or three expeditions have recently left here for various points. A force of 500 men, mostly naval brigade, and the gunboat *Leopard*, were despatched on or about the 21st to Hai-duong, to operate against the Chinese who attacked that post on the 18th inst., and have not yet returned. The unexpected appearance there of a strong Chinese force seems to have opened the eyes of the authorities to the existence of communication in that province between the Chinese and the Annamite partisans, and, as a consequence, a force of one company of infantry and a gunboat was sent to Hong-yen, a town and citadel at the junction of the Thaibinh canal and the Red River, and only about five miles from the small post established at Bamboo village. The citadel was taken entirely by surprise, and was found manned by both Chinese and Annamites. The capture was of considerable consequence, as among the prisoners who fell into the hands of the French were the two Annamite military mandarins in charge of the province of Hong-yen and Hai-duong, as well as a quantity of treasure, silver bars and cash, amounting to $15,000 or $20,000, which was on its way from Hué to Bachninh to be paid to the Chinese allies of the recalcitrant King of Annam. Several detachments have also been sent out lately on reconnaisance expeditions in the direction of Sontai and Bacninh, but no engagement has taken place. It is believed in well-informed circles that there are at present fully 26,000 Chinese in Sontai and Bachninh, 9,000 of whom are said to have arrived recently, but it is now extremely difficult to obtain any reliable data from these places, particularly since the disbandment of the Yellow Flags, while there is no doubt that the Chinese residents in Hanoi keep their friends well posted in the movements of the French troops.—*China Mail Corr.*

SZECHUEN AND THE YANGTSZE VALLEY.

At the last meeting of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Mr. A. J. Little read an interesting collection of notes which he had made on the subject of the geological features of the Yangtsze Valley, and on that of his recent journey to Szechuen. After giving a very valuable scientific description of the course of the Yangtsze and the geological features of its banks, he proceeded with the description of his journey. Arriving at Hankow in the winter, he found himself dependent on native means of transport to Ichang. He found on enquiry that in that month, February, junks often occupied five and six weeks in the ascent, having to wait for a fair wind to take them through each of the many winding reaches which meander through the Hupeh plain. But only heavy goods take this route. A short cut across the lakes to the north of the river, which extends from the banks of the Han to above Shasze, is used for all light traffic. This route begins in a creek, the mouth of which is situated at a place called Kinkow. The creek by which the lakes are entered, and which Mr. Little calls a creek advisedly, although it is known to the natives as the Chang ho, or Long River, is one of those peculiar channels which exist throughout the whole of the lower division of the Yangtsze valley. Their peculiarity consists of their being effluents in summer and affluents in winter. At one season they drain off the surplus water which they have conveyed inland in the other, taking the sand-laden water up and returning it pure. The Yangtsze being at its lowest, they found the water running out through a narrow channel between high mud-banks, in a six knot current. They tracked up, with three men, in the small, flat-bottomed boat they had hired for the trip, with great difficulty. It took a week to crawl up this desolate stream, the length of which Mr. Little estimates at sixty to seventy miles. Another week was spent in traversing the lakes, which consist of a string of shallow lagoons, from two to ten miles across, connected together by embanked channels, on and behind which the miserable-looking towns and villages of the poverty-stricken province are built. The lakes were entirely covered with the chiao-pai, a jointed water-plant, with celery-like roots. Millions of waterfowl have here their winter home, different sections of the lake country being parcelled out amongst the fowlers, who make a business of netting them. These men pay a fixed tax for the privilege, and are very jealous of foreign sportsmen. Arriving at Shasze, the population fully maintained their character of barbarian-compelling "braves," by saluting Mr. Little with the reglementary brickbat, which seems always ready to hand in such places. He paid $6 for a boat from Hankow to Shasze, with three men, and $16 for another from Shasze to Chungking, the distance in one case being two hundred and in the other five hundred miles. Shasze is the natural meeting-point of the navigation of the upper and lower rivers, and it has thus become the transit station and great inland shipping emporium for the interchange of Western produce, or "chuen-ho," *i.e.*, goods from Szechuen, with the cotton, piece-goods and sea-products of the plain and coasts. The Chinese speak of Shasze as the "chên," Hankow as the "kow," and Shanghai as the "hsien," *par excellence*, of the empire. There is no doubt that, under present circumstances, the opening of this port to foreign trade, in lieu of Ichang, would have been productive of far better results, although possibly, with steamers running through Szechuen, a contingency probably contemplated by the advocates of Ichang (but who, Mr. Little is convinced, cannot have visited the place themselves) a transfer of the trade to the latter port may in time be effected. Ichang itself is a pattern specimen of the dirt, decay and misery of almost every inland town (always excepting Szechuen) to which the revivifying influence of foreign contact, direct or or indirect, is wanting. Notwithstanding that the port has been opened six years, no merchant has yet thought it worth while to settle there, although there are rumours of more than one effort being about to be made in that direction. Thus far, the foreign community of Ichang comprises only the Customs staff, the inevitable missionary, and about the tenth part of a Consul, who has an office here which he periodically visits, but who, in view of the barrenness of the field, is considerately allowed to have his home in Hankow. Shasze is one of the Yangtsze stages, so-called, and the shipment and delivery of goods by steamers is permitted there under the new Customs regulations, promulgated for that object in 1877. But so many difficulties are connected with the working of these regulations that thus far the China Merchants' Co. has found it impossible to avail of the privilege. The distance from Shasze to Ichang is eighty-three nautical miles, and it took Mr. Little three days to accomplish it. On the morning of the second day, the river changed its character, and from a huge ditch, with perpendicular walls of crumbling mud, became the semblance of what is usually understood by a river in England. On the third day, they coasted under a veritable cliff forty feet high. Ten miles before reaching Ichang, they passed through the Tiger Teeth Gorge, which has vertical walls about 200 feet high, with steep hills rising some five hundred feet higher. After spending two days at Ichang enjoying the hospitality of the genial Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Little proceeded on his way, up the gorges proper, the first being the Ichang gorge, or Hsi ling hsia. At the entrance of the gorge you go down a narrow water alley, with walls of limestone rising to pinnacles of 3,000 feet on either side. Through this gate, which is about 400 yards wide, the whole body of water from Szechuen and the country beyond pours forth into the lake-like expanse below. The contrast is inexpressibly grand. Suddenly one leaves the brawling rapid and finds a still deep current, flowing, with majestic slowness, through a bottomless chasm without a ripple on its surface; and the gloom and the dead silence add immeasurably to the grandeur of the scene. The first entrance into this gorge produces an impression such as one never forgets. It took Mr. Little sixty-four days to get from Hankow to Chungking, the contrast being very marked as they went from the poor, sterile country into the great plateau of Szechuen, and the weather getting warmer as they got west, till in March it was like full summer weather. At some points in the rapids the rocks were covered with skeletons of boats, and it was evident that the loss must be enormous—the Chinese said one junk in ten, though one per cent would probably be nearer the mark. They made the six hundred miles to Ichang with an average of six knots; the current must therefore be pretty strong at that part of the river. With regard to steamboats, the Chinese in Szechuen seemed very anxious to have them; and it struck Mr. Little that if in the three bad rapids they had chains or iron ropes laid down, something like those on the Rhine, a steamer could wind itself up very comfortably, and steam the rest of the distance. There was plenty of water, and all that would be required would be a good pilot. Still, it was a risky business, and Mr. Little supposed that no foreigner would ever venture to do it; but that the Chinese would have to do it themselves. Mr. Little found the people of Szechuen exceedingly hospitable to foreigners, and anxious for the introduction of foreign inventions; but he was rather surprised to find outside the town an imposing stone proclamation, dating from the first year of the present Emperor's reign, surrounded by a pavilion, and stating that whereas certain evil-disposed persons, for the sake of ill-gotten gains, had quarried into the hill and so disturbed the ground influences and cut the serpent's neck, the graduates had consequently failed to get any degrees. There would always be difficulties of this kind to contend with. Mr. Little concluded with a description of the coal mines in Hupei and Hunan. Most of them are like rabbit holes—three feet high, in which miserable children are employed, and from which a miserable sort of coal is obtained. But there is one fine mine to the north-west of Chungking. It is situated 1,000 or 1,500 feet above the level of the river. It is 1,000 feet long, eight feet high and five feet wide. A

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tramway of wooden rails runs along it, and the coal is brought along this in coal-baskets with iron wheels. Mr. Little had obtained figures, which he believed were reliable, as to the production of the mine, from the manager, who very hospitably entertained him for two days. From 30 to 60 tons of coal were raised a day; but before the works were stopped by water, 60 tons were raised. Besides superintendent, foreman, two accountants and landlord's agent, 120 men were employed, viz., 36 hewers, 36 carriers, 36 pumpers and 12 men to work the revolving fans. They were making a new tunnel, and were progressing at the rate of seven inches a day, at which rate it would take over six years to reach the coal. This was a good opportunity for the introduction of foreign machinery; but Mr. Little was informed that for fear of disturbing the serpent, they would not be permitted to use machinery unless it was noiseless.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

October 4th.—A Memorial from the Governor of Kiangsi and the Literary Chancellor of that province reporting the steps they have taken in obedience to Imperial Decree to put down the practice of of female infanticide. Some two months ago they were informed by the Grand Council that His Majesty had issued a Decree referring to the Memorialists a Memorial from Wang Pang-hsi, an Expositor of the Han-lin Yuan, who had called attention to the success which had attended the efforts of a previous Literary Chancellor for the suppression of the crime of female infanticide. While admitting that this crime is inhuman, and subversive of social morality in no small degree, the Memorialists submit that the character of their province stands higher in regard than that of other provinces. In obedience to earlier instructions from His Majesty on this subject, orders were given to the local authorities to exhort the notables and gentry to devote their attention to the suppression of the crime in their immediate vicinity, their efforts being supported by the educational officers, who had orders to compile and publish short rules upon the subject. During the past few years foundling societies have been organised in each department or district on a scale commensurate with their respective wants or capabilities, and these have not failed to be effective; but it has none the less to be admitted that the success was only partial in many instances, and the compliance openly promised with admonitions of those interested in the matter, was often broken in secret. In view of this state of things, Pao-shan, the Literary Chancellor, especially directed the officers of education to continue these efforts on a wider scale, and to be specially instant in their exhortations at the examination seasons; and, as the success of their exertions might be considerably restricted in consequence of their not being possessed of punitive powers, the territorial authorities were called on to combine with them, rewards being given in cases where success was particularly apparent. The result of this system has been that nearly every Department and District town has now its Foundling or Orphanage, for the receipt and maintenance of children that have been abandoned. The financial condition of the province, crippled by rebellion in earlier years, which has been followed by successive seasons of wet and flood, has prevented the universal spread of these establishments, to the continual regret of the Memorialists. In obedience to His Majesty's latest commands, however, they have given positive orders to the territorial and educational officers of the province to be sincere in their efforts to carry out the system that in force, and these instructions have been supplemented by the issue of proclamations in the joint names of the Memorialists, which embody certain stringent rules prohibiting the crime of female infanticide.

October 5th.—No documents of importance.

October 6th—(1) Hêng Ling (恒齡) is appointed prefect of Ch'ung-ch'ing Fu in Szechuen, and Hsia Yü-hsin (夏毓秀) General of the Sung P'an Division in the same province.

(2) A Decree in answer to the representations of a Censor, ordering the Board of Civil Office to exercise special care in testing the identity of the handwriting of the candidates examined for Chinese interpreterships and those who successfully pass, it being asserted by the Censor that substitutes are commonly employed by the applicants for admission to these examinations.

(3) A Decree ordering the Board of Astronomy to select some auspicious day in the present moon for commencing the repairs to the Imperial Buildings at Moukden.

(4) A Memorial from the Governor of Kiangsi furnishing details, as earlier instructed by Decree, regarding the income and property of a "College," known as the Pai Lu Tung Shu Yüan, in Nan-ch'ang Fu, founded by the eminent philosopher and commentator Chu Hsi. The Pai Lu Tung, or "White Deer Grotto," which was the favourite retreat of the philosopher during his hours of meditation when holding office as Governor of Nan K'ang, and is the first of the four great Shu Yuan of the empire, was endowed with landed property situated in different Districts in the Nan-ch'ang prefecture, which originally brought in an annual income of about Tls. 1,800. The value of this property being much diminished after the rebellion, it was arranged under regulations drawn up in the last reign, to reduce the rents by twenty per cent., and these have been paid with unfailing regularity; but they have only sufficed to meet the current expenses of the establishment, and leave no margin for repairs which are greatly needed, so much so that the examinations supposed to be held there have no existence in reality. Under instructions from the Memorialists, a special officer surveyed the building and made an estimate of the cost of repairing it. This he found would cost Tls. 1,000, which amount the Financial Commissioner has furnished and has also set aside a sum of Tls. 10,000, the interest on which, at ten per cent., is to be devoted to the bestowal of additional prizes for literary compositions by impecunious scholars, at examinations to be held periodically. In conclusion the Memorialist ventures to hope that His Majesty, who has already shown such interest in the welfare of the college, will condescend to bestow upon it an Imperial tablet to supplement the one already conferred in the reign of K'ang Hsi.—Granted by Decree earlier issued.

October 7th.—(1) Ying Jui, Superintendent of the Huai-an Customs, reports a deficit in his collection for his year of office of Tls. 301,535, the three Customs stations under his charge being assessed at Tls. 364.363, and his receipts being only Tls. 62,828. This large deficit is to be accounted for, primarily, by the diversion of duties by the Shanghai Customs, which takes all imposts upon native produce outwards, and foreign goods inwards, that are protected by Transit Pass. Even the bean trade, upon which the Customs depends for some of its revenue, was last year a failure. To the above causes must be added an extra amount of smuggling on the part of the boatmen carrying examination students to the north, the closing of the river to navigation during a portion of the winter, by excessive frost, followed by a want of water in the upper portions of the Canal in the spring, which prevented the descent of the grain fleet with their return cargoes, and other vessels, while, lastly, trade was somewhat paralysed by the condition of alarm engendered by the seditious movements of affiliated societies in Hai Chou, Mu-yang Hsien, An-tung Hsien, and T'ao-yüan Hsien. The Memorialist has done his utmost to show his gratitude to His Majesty, by considering the possibility of the augmentation of the revenue from every point of view; but, alas! circumstances over which human effort can exercise no control have been against him. He can perhaps plead that his receipts are a trifle larger than last year, but the deficit is so enormous that he can only throw himself on His Majesty's generosity, and crave that merciful treatment which has ever been extended to his predecessors.—Referred to the Board of Revenue.

October 8th.—(1) A Memorial from Ts'ên Yü-ying, which is evidently a postscript to a general financial report on the province of Kueichow that has not been issued for publication. This Postscript Memorial appears to be in answer to a Censor's criticism on the Governor-General's administration, from which criticism the Memorialist quotes a sentence in which he is asked to point out in what manner he proposes in his general scheme for reducing military expenditure to combine economy with security to life and a due regard for future contingencies. The Memorial, which is lacking in general interest in the absence of the criticisms which apparently called it forth, contains nevertheless some financial statements that are perhaps worthy of record. The Governor General mentions that four years ago he stated, in a general summary of the army estimates of Kueichow, that by the substitution of regular soldiers for irregulars, he could maintain his provincial army on a million taels a year, and carry on the general administration of the province, provided he was granted a supplementary estimate of Tls. 800,000 for payment of arrears, the creation of new posts that the abolition of irregulars demanded, and the provision and manufacture of munitions of war. He further undertook in three years' time to suggest certain reductions. These three years have now elapsed, and although the field subsidy of Tls. 1,800,000 has not been forwarded by the provinces laid under obligation, it is none the less incumbent on the Memorialist to fulfil his undertaking to consider further reductions. He has come to the conclusion that it will be possible to reduce the supplementary grant of Tls. 800,000 to 300,000, by exercising rigid economy in all the branches of expenditure to which it is devoted, while the application he has just made for permission to reduce the Chinese forces by twenty per cent. will set free Tls. 100,000 a year, which will be set aside to form a fund to meet extraordinary calls. He would, in conclusion, call attention to the fact that the total revenue of Kueichow from *likin*, land tax, and general duties does not exceed some Tls. 200,000, and the only subsidiary grants upon which she can rely are those from Szechuen, which forwards a contribution of Tls. 320,000, and salt taxes collected on behalf of the province to the amount of Tls. 180,000; say Tls. 500,000 a year. For the remainder of her expenditure Kueichow is dependent upon remittances from other provinces, many of which are greatly in arrear, and the memorialist would pray His Majesty to give orders that the Board ascertain the subsidy due from each province, and insist upon their forwarding these subsidies with regularity, for in the absence of the Tls. 600,000 they should supply each year Kueichow cannot hold her own.—Referred to the Board of Revenue.

October 9th.—(1) Ho Ju-chang (何如璋) Reader of the Han-lin Yuan, and

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formerly Minister to Japan, is appointed Director of the Foochow Arsenal.

(2) A Decree granting permission to Yü K'uan, Governor of Kuangtung, to vacate his post on the plea of ill-health.

(3) Ni Wên-wei, Governor of Kuangsi, is appointed Governor of Kuangtung, his place being filled by H ü Yên-hsü (徐延旭) the Financial Commissioner of Kuangsi, who is succeeded by Chang Mêng-yüan (張夢元), at present Director of the Foochow Arsenal.

The remainder of this day's *Gazette* is occupied with the following Memorials.

(4) An application from the Governor of Shansi on behalf of the General of the T'ai-yuan Division to retire and minister to his parents.

(5) The Governor General of the Hu Kuang Provinces reports the death of the General of the I-ch'ang Division.

(6) The Governor of Anhui forwards a list of the settled and unsettled appeal cases for the first half of the present year. There are eight of each description.

(7) The Governor of Kiangsu denounces certain officials in his jurisdiction whom he considers unfitted to hold office, from incompetency, stupidity, disreputableness of demeanour, or other causes

(8) The Governor of Shênsi reports that he has caused an exchange to be effected between two District Magistrates, who, he considers, are better adapted to each other's posts respectively.

(9) The Acting Judge of Kansu reports the date upon which he took charge of his temporary duties.

(10) The Governor-General of Szechuen furnishes certain details respecting an officer who had purchased a rank some years ago, and had been assigned an official position to which the Board objected.

October 10th.—(1) A joint Memorial from the Tartar-General at Foochow, who is also Superintendent of Customs, and the Governor-General and Governor of the province, reporting certain changes in the Customs organisation of the province for which they solicit His Majesty's approval after the opinion of the Board has been taken. The Superintendent of the Fuhkien Customs has, they observe, been constantly pressed by the Board of Revenue to institute some reform in the fiscal administration of the province which will not only bring the revenue up to its proper complement, but secure a surplus in addition. These constant reminders from the Board, supported as they have been by Imperial Rescript, have made the Tartar General thoroughly ashamed of his stupidity and incompetence, and, determined to exert himself in response to these calls, he has carefully considered the whole question with the Governor-General and Governor. In submitting the conclusions they have arrived at he would premise that the key to a successful system of revenue collection lies in the judicious selection of spots at which to place Customs Stations, and the erection of barriers to stop all bye-ways which the dishonest trader can avail himself of for purposes of smuggling It was with this principle in view that the Memorialists earlier suggested the removal of the customs station to Tung-ch'ung in the Ning-tê District and the reduction of the Pai-shih station to an inspecting Barrier; a step, which although it met with strong popular opposition at the commencement, by the maintenance of a calm front and rigid adherence to tariff rates, finally proved a financial success. There are nineteen customs stations in the province, of which the Pai-shih station was the second in the northern division. Under the change above referred to this station issues passes only, which causes loss of revenue in no small degree. In the matter of tea, for instance, the Pai-shih Barrier is supposed to collect what is called ferry duty, (渡稅) upon teas grown in the Fu-an District. These teas being in the first instance small in quantity and poor in quality, a reduced tax of 60 cash per picul was levied upon them, and the trifling amount of duty thus raised used to be amalgamated with the collection on general goods. But during the last eight or nine years the tax has become so much more considerable that it now forms a special item, and the duty has been raised to one mace per picul. Since the reduction of Pai-an to an inspecting barrier, the Fu-an teas no longer pass that way, and much evasion of duty is the consequence. The production of tea in the northern portion of the province is increasing year by year, and its growth is not confined to the District of Fu-an above mentioned, for there are tea merchants in all the five Districts of the Fu-ning Prefecture engaged in the export of tea. The peculiar nature of this prefecture, which is on the sea coast, and is intersected by numerous creeks and rivers, is such as to afford many facilities for making detours and avoiding customs barriers, so that nothing will prevent extensive smuggling but the establishment of another station. This the Memorialists propose to place at a spot called Fei Ying (飛鶯), some 220 *li* distant from Fu-ning Fu, by which all the tea in the northern portion of the province is obliged to pass on its way to the provincial capital. The "ferry" duty of one mace per picul on all qualities of tea, will be transferred from the Pai-shih station to the new one, which will command the output of the whole five Districts.—Referred to the Board of Revenue.

Meeting.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 3rd December, 1883, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. Myburgh (Chairman), J. S. Ezekiel, C. J. Holliday, P. G. Hübbe, M. Kalb, R. Mackenzie, A. C. Westall, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for week ended 1st inst. is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

General Municipal Rate, Native.—Return for September quarter is submitted, and ordered to be published:—

SUMMARY OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL RATE—NATIVE.
September Quarter, 1883.

	No. of Houses 1882.	Rental Assessment 1882.	No. of Houses 1883.	Rental Assessment 1883.	Increase	Increase
		$		$		$
Foreign Settlement	12,322	1,049,262	12,930	1142732	608	93,470
Hongkew Settlement	6,835	277,488	7,586	301,954	751	24,466
Total..	19,157	1,326,750	20,516	1444686	1359	117,936
Occupied by Foreigners	407	..	472	..	65	..
Occupied Natives	17,78.	..	18,390	..	607	..
Unoccupied..	.967	..	1,654	..	687	..
Total Assessment..	..	1,326,750	..	1444686	..	117,936
Tax Collected	..	30,331	..	32,077	..	1,696

Visit of Tso Tsung-tang—Disorderly Conduct of Soldiers.—The following letter and its enclosure from the Taotai are ordered to be published:—

United States Consulate-General,
Shanghai, 29th December, 1883.

SIR,—Referring to your communication No. 83/523, of date the 23rd of October last, I have now the honour to enclose copy of a letter which I have received from the Taotai, in regard to the complaint made by the Municipal Council of the disorderly behaviour of the soldiers who accompanied H.E. Tso Tsung-tang on his late visit to the Foreign Settlement.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
O. N. DENNY,
U.S. Consul-General, and Senior Consul.

To A. MYBURGH, Esq.,
Chairman, Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 15th November, 1883.

SIR,—On the 10th day of the 10th moon, the writer had the honour to receive a letter from you, to the effect that you had received a communication from the Municipal Council, based upon a representation made to them by Mr. Penfold, Superintendent of Police, complaining of the disorderly behaviour of some of the soldiers who accompanied H.E. Tso Tsung-tang on his recent visit to the Foreign Settlement; and you requested that the necessary precaution be taken to prevent a recurrence of like acts on the part of Chinese soldiers on any similar future occasion

You also transmitted a copy of the letter you had received from the Chairman of the Municipal Council, which the writer had translated into Chinese. It stated that foreign residents were pushed about by the soldiers in passing, and their carriages cleared from the roadway and forced on to the sidewalks; that in future when a mandarin of high rank proposes to visit the Foreign Settlement due notice of the exact time of his intended visit be sent to the Council and they will instruct the Police to maintain peace and good order in the streets.

With reference to this matter, the writer would state that, according to established custom in China, when merchants and others (native) meet an officer of high rank passing through the streets, they must stand aside as a mark of respect. On the occasion of Viceroy Tso's recent visit to Shanghai, the writer deputed a weiyuan to notify the Municipal Police, so that they could properly oversee and direct the traffic in the streets. It was right that the carriages and people on foot should get out of the way for the procession to pass and that the advance guard of soldiers should shout at any in the way so as to avoid any obstruction and to keep the line clear. Such a course was entirely proper. It was not that the soldiers were presuming on their position and behaved in a disorderly manner. Now the Municipal Council suggests that in future, when a mandarin of high rank proposes to visit the Foreign Settlement, due notice of the exact time of his intended visit should be sent to them and they will instruct the Police to maintain peace and good order in the streets. This will prevent carriage and people on foot from crossing the streets at their pleasure, and they will all have to stand aside (when a high official is passing) to the end that trouble may be avoided. This is a precautionary measure and it is right that action should be taken accordingly.

Now, besides having instructed the District Magistrate and the Mixed Court Deputy to notify the Municipal Police at the proper time (*i.e.*, when an official of high rank visits the Foreign Settlement) the writer sends this communication in reply, and will thank you to transmit a copy of it for the information of the Municipal Council.

Card of SHAO,
Intendant of the Soo, Sung Tai Circuit,
&c., &c., &c.

To O. N. DENNY, Esq.,
U.S. Consul-General, and Senior Consul.

Road behind Mixed Court.—Letter from the Legal Adviser submitted, stating that in his opinion the Council is not called upon to interfere between Mr. Lester and Mr. Hogg, between whom the dispute about the Hiang Fung Loong seems mainly to rest, or to assert the rights (if any) of the Chinese public to the use of this roadway, which has never been taken charge of by the Council.—Decided to inform Mr. Lester that the Council do not intend to take any proceedings in the matter.

Bubbling Well Road.—The following correspondence is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 3rd December, 1883.

SIR,—I beg to point out to you the fact that the road leading from the Bubbling Well road to the "Belle Vue" is public, and I

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shall be obliged if you will inform me if the Council intend to take it over.

It is, I think, the only inlet to the country from the Bubbling Well road, and as such may be of value to the Council at some future time.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
HY. MORRISS.

R. F. THORBURN, Esq ,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 4th December, 1883.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 3rd instant, which has been submitted to the Council, and in reply, I am directed to inform you that they have no intention at present to take over the road leading from the Bubbling Well Road to the Belle Vue.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. F. THORBURN,
Secretary.

H. MORRISS, Esq.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—The following report is ordered to be published :—

RETURN OF ANIMALS KEPT AT THE NATIVE DAIRIES.
Shanghai, 3rd December, 1883.

Locality of Dairy.	Remained last Return.	Buffaloes.	Do. Calves	Cows N'tive	Calves Do.	Cows Eng.	Calves Do.	Bulls Do.	Total.	Remarks.
Hongkew B 780	12	4	..	1	..	..	1	..	6	1 English calf dead, 2 buffaloes calves sold, 1 English cow and 1 Native cow and calf taken sick and sold.
Broadway No. 2	9	6	..	1	2	..	..	..	9	
" No. 3	9	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	
" No. 4	8	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	8	
Lee Hongkew	19	16	1	1	1	..	..	..	19	
Woosung Road	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	
Sinza Village	10	5	..	..	..	3	2	..	10	
" No. 2	12	7	..	2	3	..	..	..	12	
" No. 3	45	32	3	5	3	..	..	..	43	2 Buffaloes calves sold.
Peking Road	8	4	..	1	2	..	1	..	8	
Tah-hoo Dairy	30	8	1	3	1	8	7	..	28	2 Buffaloes sold.
French Road to Cemetery	3	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	
Yuen-sung	13	7	..	3	1	1	2	..	14	1 English calf bought.
Sung-lee	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	
Pah-sien-joh (South)	5	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	
Near Ningpo Joss House (Apping)	20	7	1	5	..	..	6	1	20	
Rifle Range Bridge	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	
Overweg's Bungalow	25	17	1	6	3	..	..	..	27	2 Buffaloes bought.
Lo-p-h	11	10	1	..	..	..	..	..	11	
Kinkong	14	7	..	2	..	1	3	1	14	
Zeo	10	..	..	2	1	3	4	..	10	
Pah-sien joh	3	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	
Total	274	160	10	35	18	16	26	2	267	

Less by death and sale 10
Gain by purchase 3

Decrease 7

I inspected the cattle kept at the above-named places on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of last week. The place in Hongkew, known as B 780, lost a heifer calf of English breed, and five other animals as noted in the margin were condemned and sold to the grease shops. With this exception, the cattle are all in good condition, and apparently in good health.

JAMES A. WEED,
Asst. Insp. of Markets, &c.

The Meeting then adjourned.

Amusements.

THE BLACKBIRD MINSTRELS.

The success of the Blackbirds at their first performance, a few months ago, was so great that all Shanghai crowded into the Lyceum on Friday night to witness their second entertainment. Every seat in the house was occupied, and every available inch of standing room was also taken up. We are sorry, however, that we cannot chronicle so brilliant a success as that of the first concert. There was plenty that was amusing in the programme, and the audience were treated to many a hearty laugh, but it cannot be denied that the performance dragged somewhat at times, that some of the jokes fell flat, and that the singing might have been a great deal better. The place of the pompous individual who sits in the centre of the line of "Blacks" and exchanges riddles with the corner men was filled by our old favourite of the A.D.C., Mr. Jules Mumm; but for some reason, he seemed to have lost a little of the "go" which usually characterises his performances on the stage, and, like one or two other singers, he was evidently suffering from a cold, which considerably marred the effect of his singing. Mr. Frank wielded the tambourine with great spirit, and both his songs were loudly encored. Mr. Henry rattled the bones in the opposite corner and went through some amusing comic business; but his fun was scarcely so spontaneous as his brother's, and unfortunately some of the jokes to which he had to give utterance were a little bit dismal. Mr. Miles and Mr. Concordia both sang well; but the gems of the first part of the programme were two quartets, well rendered by Messrs. Miles, Smarty, Jules Mumm and Chonfleur. The local hits too often took the form of obvious puns on well-known names in Shanghai, but one in which nearly all the brokers of Shanghai received a whipping from the tongue of Mr. Frank was so cleverly put together that it provoked one of the heartiest bursts of applause of the evening. The best and most highly appreciated—because the most deserved—lashing delivered, was one bestowed upon the Customs. It appears that Mr. Frank recently imported a wife, but she carried so much wool on her head that the Customs authorities refused to allow her to be landed without a permit. Mr. Frank's story of the delays and difficulties which he experienced in passing his wife through the Customs was followed with almost painful interest by the audience, many of whom could, from their own experience, sympathise heartily with Mr. Frank in his troubles. The first part of the programme concluded with a local version of the song "Rowing on the Creek," into which the names of the more famous oarsmen of the Shanghai Rowing Club were skilfully introduced. An exquisitely ridiculous "tragedy," entitled "the Babes in tho Wood," went with great spirit, Messrs. Smarty and Henry's wooden postures in the characters of two mechanical figures being deliciously laughable. "Herr Professor Waitland Frank" next delivered a stump oration on the subject of the Electric Light. The usual kind of comic business which is supposed to accompany the delivery of a speech by a nigger was laughably performed; but although there was plenty of fun in the speech, and it was comically delivered, yet it was not uniformly excellent, and some members of the audience had had about enough of it by the time it was finished. The entertainment concluded with a "Truthful Representation of the Doleful Condition of the Shanghai Bobby," to the tune of the Policeman's Chorus in the Pirates of Penzance Mr. Jules Mumm appeared as the Captain-Superintendent, and trolled forth with great spirit and distinctness a song in which the chief points of the new police scheme were cleverly hit off. But amusing though it was, it naturally suggested a comparison with the volunteer chorus with which the first performance of the Blackbirds concluded, and although certainly the policeman's song had the merit of being less personal than the other, it was also less laughable. Many people were doubtless attracted to the theatre by the hope of seeing some of their fellow townsmen receive a few hard hits from the niggers, and on the whole they had no reason to be disappointed, although the Blackbirds were certainly more merciful than at the previous entertainment.

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

The first hunt of the season was favoured with a glorious day, suitable to any class of sport, but more especially to hunting. And we had a new and well qualified Master, while in the field were a number of new ponies that, happily, showed throughout the hunt that they also were not out of place: in fact the whole affair was as good as it could have been. The start was on the old Bubbling Well Road, over two recently made jumps fairly straight cut, the second especially so, and not easy to negotiate at the commencement of any hunt, to say nothing of the first of the season. When all were prepared, we started; some went over, others went in to the first obstruction; more took up a strong position in the second jump, making it somewhat difficult for the riders who arrived later to get over; still out of the thirty riders who actually started, a very good proportion showed up when we got on to the Island, over or past which we had a very pleasant gallop. Leaving this, we made a slightly circuitous route to Jessfield and on to Fahwah, some of the intervening creeks being very sticky and highly objectionable—mudlarking of the kind should be avoided as far as practicable. The ground was very heavy, and I was looking more after myself than others, so that I cannot on the present occasion give you any details of the hunt. When the run for home commenced it was quite evident that, barring accidents, a "Hongkong Bank young man," on a well tried pony, must come in first. And so it proved. *Astrologer* won easily, Mr. Howie on a griffin, disqualified, I am credibly informed, second, Mr. Malherbe third, Mr. Arbuthnot who takes the heavy weight prize, fifth, a *few* others well up. Now I must put in my protest. I consider it very bad judgment and want of consideration, for men who have not ridden through a hunt, to endeavour to show themselves off before the spectators at the final jump. Moreover it makes the task of the 'judge' at the finish more difficult to decide if a heavy weight prize has been won, and who is the winner. One of our number reached the "tidal creek" well qualified as far as appearance went, to join the Society of Blackbirds; but, doubtless, some of the Lau-tê-kee Wash would have the much desired effect.

LYNX.

THE TOMBOLA.

For some time past, notices that a "Tombola" would be held in aid of the funds of the Society St. Vincent de Paul have been before the public, the proceeds, after paying expenses, to be devoted to aiding indigent foreigners irrespective of creed or nationality. The Committee who were appointed to carry out this worthy object arranged the programme and undertook the responsibility of making all the necessary arrangements with a light heart, but they soon found that the difficulties to be overcome were of such a nature as to almost dishearten them and make them wish they had never taken the matter in hand. As the object, however, was a charitable one, they persevered, and their efforts were crowned with much greater success than the most sanguine had at first anticipated. The idea of the Tombola or lottery, which appears to have been the best under the circumstances, was only mooted a short time ago, but the Committee worked with a will,

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the result being that most of the obstacles were overcome and the Tombola took place at the Lyceum Theatre on Monday afternoon.

In order to make the occasion as lucrative as possible, the Committee solicited articles to be given as prizes, and their appeal was liberally responded to. People were admitted by tickets at one dollar each. These were exchanged for a number, which on presentation entitled the holder to a prize, of which there were one thousand. The Tombola commenced at 3 p.m. and as soon as the doors of the Lyceum were opened, the tickets-holders commenced to pour in. Most of them were ladies and children, though there was a fair sprinkling of men present. The pit of the theatre was arranged as a promenade, most of the seats having been removed outside while others were placed round the sides, and this arrangement gave plenty of room for people to move about. The orchestra was converted into stalls for the sale of tea and coffee and cakes, while "Rebecca at the Well" and a "Gipsy Girl" were the means of increasing the proceeds of the afternoon; the former by selling something out of a jug to the gentlemen, and the latter by telling fortunes. Little girls, too, tripped about among the grown up people with bunches of flowers for sale. There was also a weighing machine, people paying a small sum to ascertain their weight.

The stage was arranged as a winter scene, appropriate for this time of the year, and it was here that the principal interest of the guests was centred, for it was here that the prizes were displayed which many had come to get. These prizes varied in value from a few cents up to $70; but everybody had a prize, there were no blanks, and the valuable ones were not few, for many of them had been presented to the Committee to be given away. It was remarked, indeed, that the intrinsic worth of many of the articles was such, that the Committee would have been warranted, if they had been so disposed, in issuing tickets at $2 instead of $1. It naturally followed that where so many things were presented, the prizes were of a most miscellaneous description, as the following brief list taken at random will show:—The first prize was a handsome electro-plated Tea Service valued at $70; the next was an E.-P. centre-piece. Then there was a most handsome oval Venetian looking glass, with the frame made of glass. There was a camphor wood table desk, handsomely worked sofa cushions and slippers, fancy glove and handkerchief boxes, match boxes, packets of wax and other matches, pieces of music, worked and artificial flowers, photo frames, scent bottles, silver thimbles in cases, pipes, cigar holders, tobacco boxes made to imitate overdone ship's biscuits and soft bread, ornaments of many kinds, packets of Court plaster, books, Christmas cards, purses, note paper and envelopes, boxes of water colours, antimacassars, drawing slates, handsome inkstands, albums, pens, pincushions and mirrors, thermometers, pictures, vases, boxes of games, fancy boxes, silk shawls, table mats, various kind of scents, violet powder, bottles of gum, majolica ware, pencil cases, pen holders, paper knives, articles of children's clothing and various toys.

The distribution of this miscellaneous collection naturally caused considerable merriment from its incongruity. For instance, a well-known and weather-beaten coasting skipper received a packet of violet powder, and a young lady became the possessor of a briarwood pipe, while to a young gentleman's lot fell a silver thimble and a pincushion. After the drawings were over, the prizes unclaimed were sold by auction.

The Town Band was present during the distribution and was placed in the dress circle, where they played the following programme under the direction of Senor Vela.

1.—March—"La Mascotte"..... Audran.
2.—Quadrille—"Fun of the Fair" Williams.
3.—Overture—"French Comedy" Keler Bela.
4.—Waltz—"Chantilly" .....Waldteufel.
5.—Chorus—"Il Bivacco—L'Assedio di Leida".....Petrella.
6.—Polka—"The Colonel" .....Herve.
7.—Waltz—"Les Patineurs" ...Waldteufel.
8.—Galop—"Rotten Row" .....Keler Bela.

Correspondence.

THE RECENT ATMOSPHERIC PHENOMENA.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—You have asked me my opinion upon the cause of the phenomena of light which everybody has been able to witness both morning and evening for the last two months. It is in fact since the first days of October that my attention has been attracted by the remarkably intense red colours with which the western sky has been arrayed after sunset, and you may remember that the first appearance of this beautiful phenomenon at Foochow led to the belief that it arose from some vast conflagration. Red was not the only colour which illuminated the atmosphere; the most diverse hues succeeded each other, as, generally speaking, in the order of spectral colours, red appears the first in the morning and disappears the last at night. This phenomenon was particularly remarkable in that the illumination of the sky in the morning began a considerable time before the ordinary moment of dawn, and in the evening lasted a long time after the normal twilight. Another peculiarity not less striking was that the Sun, on rising and setting, presented a disc of dazzling whiteness; the sky nearest the horizon was of the same tint, while towards the zenith the firmament was lightly washed with purplish violet. These phenomena were visible every morning and evening, whatever may have been the atmospherical conditions, and it was not difficult to discern their presence behind the thick curtain of clouds which so often veiled the firmament during the month of November.

The most obvious explanation that could be given of the phenomena of colour thus observed was to attribute them to the presence of watery vapours in the highest regions of the air; and in the frequent typhoons of the past autumn we had the mechanical agent by which these vapours would have been raised and transported a long distance. But the occurrences were too constant, too persistent, in spite of the changes of weather, and still more the whiteness of the sun's disc at the horizon presented too great a contrast to the intense colouring that had preceded its rise and followed its setting, to allow of this explanation being sustained.

Upon these intervals, the scientific journals of Europe (*Nature*, 11th and 18th October) informed me that absolutely similar phenomena had been observed since the middle of September in India, especially at Madras, and that popular credulity recognised in them prognostics of a famine; just as, in China, they are regarded as presaging war. The explanation of the phenomena given by the *savants* of the country was at first identical with that I have just quoted; but soon it appeared insufficient, and they fell back upon the cinders proceeding from the great eruption in Java, which might have been carried along by the higher aerial currents. But the cinders thrown out in August will not explain what we have observed here in October and November; besides, even in India, the phenomenon continued to the end of October, according to letters which came from Calcutta by the last mail. Moreover, America herself participated in the spectacle; for, under date of the 2nd September, a letter appeared from Trinidad in the *Times* stating that during the evening it was generally believed that an immense conflagration was raging in the environs, so intense and widespread was the red colouring of the sky. Here then we have the same phenomenon showing itself either successively or more probably at the same time in three countries all far distant from one another—India, China, and the Gulf of Mexico; we may almost conclude that it was general, at least as regards the whole of a pretty large zone, and including the tropics.

Is it, then, not reasonable to seek outside our own globe for the cause of these strange occurrences? For, how can we admit that the same atmospheric conditions are able to occur at the same time in places so far apart? So much the more as these conditions themselves do not seem to explain equally well all the phases of the phenomenon. But, if it is necessary to leave the Earth in our quest, what are we likely to meet, in Space, that can give rise to the facts that have been observed? Evidently it can scarcely be anything but masses of gaseous particles, perhaps even solid particles, sufficiently diffused not to sensibly obscure the light of day, but capable of reflecting, refracting, and dispersing the solar light at pretty large angles, and finally intermixed with our own atmosphere in such a way as that the direct rays of the sun at the horizon, reaching us sifted and reflected a thousand times through a thick stratum of these particles, acquired a radiance as though of silver.

Again, I see nothing but the solar nebulosity known as the Zodiacal Light, or a mass of cosmic dust encountered by the Earth in her revolution round the Sun, that could present these conditions. By a cause entirely unknown to us, the solar nebulosity which at this time of year envelopes our globe and extends to a considerable distance, might have experienced a sensible increase of density; and as its plane blends with that of the ecliptic, it is evidently in a zone in the neighbourhood of the Equator that the maximum of the consequent phenomena should have been observed. These modifications in the solar nebulosity may depend upon the modifications occurring in the body of the Sun, either on its surface or in its immense atmosphere. As regards the supposed meeting of the Earth with a mass of cosmic dust, there is nothing more natural; such masses are by no means lacking in the Universe; nebulæ are innumerable, and according to a most ingenious theory of the Italian astronomer Schiaparelli, a comet which has disappeared and ceased to exist for ever under that form, may be found again in all its component parts in the dust with which its former orbit is sown. One may thus form some idea of the magnitude of the supposed mass which the Earth would have had to pass through during these three months of September, October, and November,—(the strange phenomena observed in the evening and the morning appear to have ceased with the beginning of December). We know that the Earth in its revolution round the Sun makes 29.5 kilometres a second, or 2,548,800 kilometres a day; if the duration of the phenomena was about eighty-eight days, the Earth will have made 224,294,400 kilometres through this mass of cosmic dust, and this would be the extent of its densest portions. This again is a small thing compared with the dimensions of some nebulæ. It is, no doubt, to an encounter of this sort that we must attribute the dry mist observed in 1783 in Europe, Africa and America. This mist certainly possessed a feeble light of its own, for at midnight it distinctly illumined objects more than 200 kilometres off. The mist of 1831, which excited so much public attention in the four quarters of the globe, had a strong resemblance to that of 1783, and was the cause of several of the phenomena observed during 1883, although this year, the cosmic dust in question,—even allowing that it is the cause of what has

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been witnessed here in China, and also in India and America—has not been dense enough to partially obscure the sun; as was the case in the two former instances. We will say in conclusion, that from 1783 to 1831 is 48 years, from 1831 to 1883 52 years. These two numbers are sufficiently alike to justify us in asking whether these three phenomena may not be produced by one and the same cause which makes its appearance periodically, or nearly so.

These, Sir, are lucubrations on which I do not ask you to place too much faith. They are conjectures which no doubt have some probability, but they are conjectures notwithstanding, and it may be that the phenomenon is simpler than we think.

MARC DECHEVRENS, S.J.

WAR PREPARATIONS AT CANTON.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—You quote from the *Hongkong Daily Press* a paragraph regarding extensive preparations being made in Canton to resist French invasion. "Every house in the city has been marked with a little yellow placard to the effect that 'in the ninth year, it has been examined.' This is probably synonymous with having been squeezed, or made to pay a war contribution." The *Daily Press* Correspondent seems to attribute to this placard a mysterious warlike importance. I would ask him: are the Chinese characters covering the words '*in the ninth year, it has been examined*' 九年已查? In that case he has mistaken a very peaceful proceeding as meaning war. These words are pasted in a conspicuous position on the door of every house, and mean no more than that the number of male and female inhabitants within has been duly noted for census purposes. At Shanghai, for the last few weeks, similar tickets could be seen on every door in the city and suburbs; but instead of verifying the census record for each house by pasting on the above characters, a duplicate of the form filled in for every household (the *mên-p'ai*) is exhibited with the local mandarin's seal.—I may have guessed wrongly as regards the Chinese wording of the placard at Canton, but I wish to suggest the possibility of a slight mistake being at the bottom of at least some of the "extensive preparations," described in the *Daily Press*.

Yours faithfully,
PEACEFUL.

Shanghai, 8th December.

*** Our Correspondent's suggestion is a valuable one, and, we hope, true. It would, however, argue a greater amount of ignorance on the part of the *Daily Press* than we should like to attribute to so well-informed and respectable a paper.—ED.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 6th December, 1883.
Before Sir RICHARD T. RENNIE, *Chief Justice*.

BENJAMIN N. HUESTIS *v.* THE CHINESE GLASS WORKS COMPANY.

This was a claim of $11,388, Mexican, for alleged wrongful dismissal.

Mr. DOWDALL appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. WAINEWRIGHT for the defendants.

The jury consisted of the following:—Messrs. A. Anderson, W. Kite, A. C. Cock, W. H. Anderson and J. D. Thorburn.

Mr. DOWDALL opened the case by reading the pleadings, which were as follows:—

The petition of Benjamin N. Huestis, of 13, Woosung Road, Shanghai, engineer, the above-named plaintiff, shows as follows:—

1.—The defendants are an unincorporated company or co-partnership established in Shanghai on the 1st of August, 1882, to carry on the business of glass manufacturers.

2.—By an agreement in writing dated the 1st of August, 1882, between the plaintiff of the one part, and Messrs. W. Birt & Co., agents of the defendants, of the other part, the plaintiff engaged to give his entire time and services to the preparation, erection and general management of the works of the defendents acting in the capacity of engineer and manager of works and generally to promote the interests of the defendants to the utmost of his power. And it was agreed that the agreement should be in force for three years. And that in consideration of the said undertakings and services on the part of the petitioner, he was to receive a salary of $400 Mexican per month and to be provided with a dwelling house. And the petitioner thereby further agreed to proceed to England to select machinery and artizans for the defendants. The agreement provides that the petitioner should in London place himself at the disposal of the Company's agents there which he did and they sent him to Dresden.

3.—Immediately after the date of the said agreement, the petitioner entered upon his duties thereunder and made a voyage to Europe and there did what was required of him under the said agreement.

4.—The petitioner returned to Shanghai in February last and thenceforth until the 4th of June following attended to his duties and performed his part under the said agreement.

5.—On the last mentioned day the defendants wrongfully dismissed the petitioner.

6.—The petitioner was always ready and willing to continue the said service and to perform his part under the said agreement during the remainder of the time thereof.

7.—The defendants have not paid the petitioner's salary since the 31st of May last. They however tendered him Tls. 20.50 being salary at the rate aforesaid for the first four days of June following.

8.—The defendants have not provided petitioner with a dwelling house since the 6th of June last.

9.—The petitioner has remained unemployed since his dismissal by the defendants and has been at a monthly expense of $38 for house rent and taxes.

10.—The petitioner's salary calculated from the 31st of May last to the end of the term of the agreement amounts to $10,400, and house rent for the same period at $38 a month would amount to $988 and these two sums together make $11,388.

The petitioner therefore prays—

1.—That the defendants may be decreed to pay to the petitioner $11,388 Mexican as damages, together with his costs of suit.

2.—That the plaintiff may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require.

The answer of the Chinese Glass Company, the above-named defendants, to the Petition of the above-named plaintiff.

In answer to the said Petition, the said defendants say as follows:—

1.—The defendants admit the truth of the allegations contained in the 1st and 2nd paragraphs of the Petition, but with reference to the contents of the Agreement mentioned in the said 2nd paragraph they refer to the original thereof when produced to the Court.

2.—With reference to the 3rd, 4th and 5th paragraphs of the Petition, the defendants admit that shortly after the date of the said agreement the plaintiff entered upon his duties thereunder and made a voyage to Europe, and that he returned to Shanghai in February last, and that he was dismissed by the defendants on the 4th of June following.

3.—The defendants admit the allegations contained in the 7th, 8th and 10th paragraphs of the Petition.

4.—Save as hereinbefore appears, the Defendants deny all the allegations contained in the Petition.

5.—And further, in answer to the Petition the defendants say that they were induced to take the plaintiff into their service by the plaintiff representing and warranting to them that he was, by reason of his previous experience, especially qualified to act as an Engineer and Manager on their behalf, to erect and manage works for the manufacture of glass, and that he was reasonably competent to perform the work for which he was engaged as mentioned in the said agreement, whereas the plaintiff was not properly qualified either to erect or to manage glass works, nor has he since been reasonably competent to perform the said work.

6.—And further in answer to the Petition the defendants say that they were induced to take the plaintiff into their service by the plaintiff engaging to give his entire time and services to the preparation, erection and general management of the works of the defendants, and generally to promote the interests of the defendants to the utmost of his power, whereas the plaintiff after he had entered into the service of the defendants did not promote the interests of the defendants according to the terms of his said engagement, but on the contrary acted in a manner calculated to imperil the position and interests of the defendants.

7.—And further in answer to the said Petition the defendants say that on about the 2nd day of June, and before the plaintiff was dismissed from the said service, the plaintiff misconducted himself in the said service by wilfully disobeying the reasonable orders of the defendants, given to him in the service by Messrs. W. Birt and Co., as agents for the defendants, and by acting in a threatening manner and using threatening and insulting language to the members of the said firm of W. Birt and Co., or one of them, while acting as the agents or agent of the defendants.

8.—In consequence of the premises the defendants discharged the plaintiff from their said service, as they were entitled to do.

Mr. DOWDALL then said—Now, Gentlemen, this case shortly is this. The plaintiff was engaged by the Chinese Glass Works Company for a term of three years as their engineer and manager of Works, and he was dismissed before the expiration of his agreement on a charge of negligence, misconduct, disobedience and some other matters. He brings his suit, then, for damages for wrongful dismissed, and the great question in the case will be whether the dismissal was really founded upon these charges of negligence and misconduct, or whether it was not the result of animus on the part of Messrs. W. Birt and Co., the agents of the Company, who had a series of misunderstandings with him, and who may perhaps be suspected of having other and interested motives. I will trouble you, gentlemen, by reading to you the agreement under which the plaintiff was engaged:—

An agreement made the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two between B. N. Huestis of Shanghai in the Empire of China, engineer, of the one part and W. Birt and Company of Shanghai aforesaid, agents of the Chinese Glass Works Company of the other part. Whereas the said B. N. Huestis does hereby engage to give his entire time and services to the preparation, erection and general management of the works of the Chinese Glass Works Company acting in the capacity of Engineer and Manager of Works and generally to promote the interests of the said company to the utmost of his power for which duties his previous experience renders him especially qualified. This agreement to be in force for three years from this date and in consideration of these undertakings and services on the part of B. N. Huestis aforesaid he is to receive as salary the sum of Four Hundred Mexican dollars per month and he is to be provided with a suitable dwelling house on the premises of the company where he is to reside as soon as the same can be ready. He further agrees to proceed without delay to England to select and approve the necessary machinery and plant to be purchased and shipped by the London representatives of Messrs. W. Birt & Co (agents of the aforementioned company), and on his arrival in England to present his credentals to the aforementioned representatives of Messrs. W. Birt & Co. in London and place himself at their disposal towards the furtherance of the aforementioned company's interests, and also to select and approve a qualified chemist capable of discharging all the duties attending the manufacture of glass and two qualified glass blowers capable of discharging the duties of such experts and instructing the Chinese in the manipulation and process of glass blowing. The said chemist and glass blowers will be despatched according to the instructions of the agents of

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the said Company by their London representatives.

In witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our hand this second day of August 1882.

B. N. Huestis,
W. Birt & Co.,
Agents of Chinese Glass Works Company.

Witness
C. Oswald Liddell.

Now, Gentlemen, the first question will be the meaning of this reference to the qualifications of the plaintiff, and I will just mention two or three facts bearing upon that subject. The plaintiff has been in China for a long time; he is by profession a mechanical engineer. He established camphor refining works in Hongkong some time ago, and built and managed them; and in connection with these camphor refining works he had a glass manufactory, of comparatively limited size; and here, though assisted by no one else, he manufactured glass. Then since he has been in Shanghai he has superintended the putting up of machinery in the silk filature here. He has been well-known to the directors of this Glass Works Company for many years—that is to say, those who were directors when the company started—and they seem to have accepted him as qualified for the purpose for which they engaged him. He does not pretend to be an expert in glass manufacture; as you will see by the agreement, chemists qualified for glass manufacture and several glass blowers were to be engaged from England. Well, this agreement was prepared by Messrs. W. Birt and Co., the agents and secretaries of the company, and immediately after it was signed the plaintiff went to England and other places, putting himself in the hands of the agents in England of Messrs. W. Birt and Co. In England he visited several glass manufactories, with the view of finding out what machinery should be obtained; and then at the suggestion of the representatives of W. Birt and Co. he went to Dresden, in Saxony, where it seems glass manufacture is brought to great perfection. There he entered into a contract with the head of a government department, and he got receipts for glass manufacture which I believe in many cases are secrets. He paid for these—as of course they had to be paid for—and he got other things necessary for the establishment of first-rate glass-works. For this he had to pay money to this government institution amounting to about £1,880, English money. Then he pointed out Mr. Gritton for engagement as glass-blower, and that gentleman came out from England. Mr. Huestis then returned here, and reported what he had done; and a meeting of directors was held, and they approved of what he had been done and congratulated him on the way he had done it, £1,000 having then been already paid for the expenses incurred in Dresden. Now on the plaintiff's return to Shanghai he thought that land should have been ready for the erection of the glass-works, the building of which would be considerable; but he found that although land had been bought, near the Camp Hotel, it was still covered with graves; and he found also that there were small parts of land which encroached upon it, and which ought to have been purchased, or attempts made to purchase them, so that the buildings might be made of a proper shape. However, he proceeded to get the graves removed, and he had to alter the plans of the buildings slightly so as to enable them to be put conveniently upon the land. He complained a little about the graves not having been removed—but I must say something more about that bye-and-bye. Then he erected on Birt's Wharf a house or manufactory for experimental glass-works, and Mr. Gritton apparently designed and got erected a furnace on the plan of a furnace used in works at which Mr. Gritton was engaged at home. It seems that some alterations were made in the design at the plaintiff's suggestion, and the furnace was got ready and was made to work on that spot. But then, as soon as the plaintiff had got ready to work, had cleared the graves from the ground and levelled it, and as soon as he had got this experimental furnace to work, he was dismissed. Now, gentlemen, I must say a few words about what I understand to be the animosity which Mr. Birt had for the plaintiff. It seems that before the plaintiff went home, some land was bought—I believe the present land was bought—for the glass works. Mr. Birt asked the plaintiff to recommend the Company to sell this land and buy some land of Mr. Birt's own. The plaintiff did not think that was proper, and declined to do it. Then the plaintiff was at home he wrote or telegraphed out recommending that the land should be cleared and got ready for the building. When he came back he found that it had not been cleared, that the graves had not been removed, and these small pieces had not been purchased; and it seems that considerable extra expense was incurred by removing the graves after the plaintiff came back instead of while he was away, at a time when it seems that according to Chinese ideas, graves can be removed with less trouble than at other times. Then the plaintiff complained. He began to represent these what is called faults of Mr. Birt to the directors and he found that Mr. Birt was still wanting the directors to buy his own land instead of putting the glass works on the land which still remained uncleared. You will remember, gentlemen, that there were some words in the agreement to this effect, that the plaintiff was generally to promote the interests of the Company to the utmost of his power. Well, that does not mean very much in engaging an engineer; but still the plaintiff thought it desirable to bring before the directors some further irregularities, and he got Mr. Gritton to appear before two, I think, of the directors and to make some statements as to some information which he (Mr. Gritton) seemed to have. These statements were not made on the authority of the plaintiff. They were something to the effect that Messrs. Birt & Co were getting more than the ordinary commissions on the materials which were ordered from home, and that Messrs. Birt & Co.'s agents at home were not people of such good credit that the things could be bought as well as if the agents were different people.

Mr. Wainewright—I do not wish to interrupt; but I wish it to be understood that if this is admitted, my friend is not to object to statements of Mr. Gritton's which I may bring forward if I can prove that he made those statements.

His Lordship—If they were made in the presence of the plaintiff.

Mr. Dowdall—I am going to bring a witness to prove that Mr. Gritton's said something in the plaintiff's presence.

His Lordship—If in the plaintiff's presence a third person said something to the defendants concerning the matter now in dispute, that is clearly evidence; but if on the other hand the third person stated something which had been said to him by a fourth person, that would not be evidence.

Mr. Dowdall I do not wish to make Mr. Gritton's statement evidence all all. What I mean is that the plaintiff annoyed Mr. Birt by instigating Mr. Gritton to make certain statements to certain people. I do not suggest that what Mr. Gritton said was true; I only wish to prove the animus. I will leave anything on that question to be said on oath by the plaintiff. Now it seems also that Mr. Birt had an idea that the plaintiff wanted to get Mr. Birt out of the office of Secretary and agent and that the plaintiff wanted to get that office for himself. This, I believe, is not the fact, but Mr. Birt believed it to be the fact, and to this the plaintiff attributes much of the opposition he has received from Mr. Birt. Well, this opposition and these difficulties eventually resulted in the dismissal of the plaintiff. A few days after Mr. Gritton was induced to make these statements about Commission and things before the directors, the plaintiff received this letter from Messrs. Birt and Co., the Secretaries of the China Glass Works Company:—

Shanghai, 18th May, 1883.

B. N. Huestis, Esq.,

Dear Sir,—We beg to inform you that the entire management and control of the Chinese Glass Works Company have been placed in our hands, our responsibility being direct with the Directors. You will please therefore note that communications between yourself and any of the Directors upon matters connected with the Glass Works Company have to pass through our hands to be presented to the Board of Directors by us, and any complaints or other objections you may have against the foreign or native employés of the Company have to be made to us when we will investigate the same and report to the Directors. You will please further note that all purchases or contracts for materal for the Glass Work business must be approved by us.

We are, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
W. Birt & Co.,
Agents and Secretaries
Chinese Glass Works Company.

This letter was forwarded notwithstanding that the plaintiff was engaged as engineer and manager of the works, generally to promote the interests of the Company. The plaintiff then seems to have thought Mr. Birt rather made it his business to put difficulties in plaintiff's way, and generally to thwart him in the performance of his duties. I must mention two cases in which considerable trouble arose. After the experimental furnace or manufactory had been got ready, it was arranged that some glass should be made, and should be blown by Mr. Gritton; the 26th May, at 8 a.m., was appointed for the experiment, and Mr. Gritton had notice of it. The glass is not remelted glass, such as has previously been made in China; but is made out of sand and whatever glass is made of. The melted glass was ready at 8 a.m. on the last Saturday in May; but Mr. Gritton did not come until 9, and then first he said it was too cold, and then, after some examination, he said it was too hot, and he came back again shortly. He went away then, and did not come back. That was 9 o'clock on Saturday. He did not come back until 2 o'clock on Sunday. The furnace had been kept going, and the glass was still ready for blowing all this time and when he came in at 2 o'clock on Sunday Mr. Huestis, engineer and manager, remonstrated with him. Mr. Gritton told Mr. Huestis to mind his own business, saying it was nothing to do with him, and being generally insolent. Mr. Birt was present, and he took part with Mr. Gritton, and told Mr. Huestis that this was not his business, or something to the effect that he was not to give these orders, or was not to find fault with Mr. Gritton. Now there was a fault committed, and details of this will be got from witnesses who will speak on oath. I understand the circumstances to have been these. Mr. Birt was apparently displeased with the plaintiff's giving these orders, and the plaintiff tried to insist that as manager and engineer he ought to give them, and the glass ought to be blown under his directions. Mr. Birt apparently wanted to put the plaintiff out, and seems to have pushed him. I am instructed that he first pushed the plaintiff; the plaintiff resisted, struck Birt and knocked him down, and Birt then struck the plaintiff in the eye and knocked off his spectacles. You will hear a good deal about that, gentlemen, in the evidence; but that is shortly

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the outline of it. After that I can give another date on the 2nd June Mr. Liddell, a member of the firm of Birt and Company, went to the plaintiff's house and asked for certain books which undoubtedly belonged to the Company. They were then properly in the possession of manager, and, for all I know, ought to have remained there. However, the engineer and manager was ready to give them up to the agent of the Company; but they happened at the time to be in the plaintiff's bedroom. This gentleman, was in the adjoining room, Mr. Liddell, was walking round the table; flourishing his stick and saying he would have them at once. Mrs. Huestis was ill with fever in the bedroom where the books were, and on hearing the disturbance she locked the door. Mr. Liddell. I understand, said he would go into the room and get the books, but the plaintiff of course could not think of permitting that. The plaintiff got hold of a pistol—it was unloaded—and he put it in his pocket. I understand that he did not produce it, and at this time Mr. Liddell did not even see it. The plaintiff at last persuaded Mr. Liddell that he could have the books shortly, and Mr. Liddell went away. While Mr. Liddell was leaving, the plaintiff took the pistol out of his pocket and gave it to his boy, and Mr. Liddell then saw it. I am instructed that it was never used to intimidate Mr. Liddell, and never shown to him untill in that way. Then it was proposed, I believe, by the agents, that Mr. Huestis should be dismissed. Several attempts were made to get the Board of Directors to dismiss Mr. Huestis before the resolution was passed. However the resolution was passed, and it was dated the 2nd June, and the notice the plaintiff got of it was this letter:—

Shanghai, 4th June, 1883.

B. N. HUESTIS, Esq., *Present.*

DEAR SIR,—For and on behalf of the Chinese Glass Works Company, we have to inform you of your dismissal from the employ of the Company. For your satisfaction we enclose a copy of the resolution of the directors empowering us to take this course.

We are instructed to inform you that in addition to your previous conduct, your refusal to deliver to us the books and plans of the Company when requested to do so on Saturday last, and the ferocious tone you were then pleased to adopt towards those we sent for them are the directors' justification for your dismissal.

We have again to request you to deliver up to the bearer the books, etc., detailed in our letter of Saturday last.

We have further to request you to vacate the house you now occupy, and request that the keys be sent to us by noon to morrow.

Not wishing to inconvenience you, if you will send us a line engaging to quit by Saturday next, we are then willing that you remain until that day.

We enclose your account current with our firm, showing a balance in your favour of Taels twenty and a half (Tls. 20.50) a cheque for which amount we hand your herein.

We are, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
W. BIRT & Co.,
Agents and Secretaries,
Chinese Glass Works Company.

Special Resolution proposed at a meeting of the Directors of the Chinese Glass Works Company held at the Company's Office, No. 3 Honan Road, Shanghai, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon on the second day of June 1883.

Present:—Tong Mow-chee, Esq., Chairman; Fanchung, Esq.; W. Birt, Esq.

It was proposed by Mr. Tong Mow-chee and seconded by Mr. W. Birt:—

"That in view of Mr. Huestis conduct which in the opinion of the Directors has been most injurious to the interests of the Company' the Agents and Secretaries of the Company be and they are hereby instructed to dismiss him from the employ of the Company."

(Signed) TONG MOW CHEE, *(Chairman.)*
(Signed) W. BIRT, *(Director.)*
(Signed) C. OSWALD LIDDEL, *(Secretary)*

Mr. DOWDALL—You will observe, gentlemen, that that is a resolution proposed, but it does not even say it was passed. However, I am not going to doubt that the plaintiff was dismissed, or I would not be able to bring my action for wrongful dismissal. Now inasmuch as the charges made in the answer were somewhat general, the Court made an order, and the defendants supplied particulars more in detail of the grounds upon which the plaintiff is supposed to have been dismissed. You will notice, gentlemen, that these grounds are formulated after dismissal on the vague charge of not having acted up to the interests of the Company. But we now have the particulars.—Mr. Dowdall then read the following particulars filed by defendants in accordance with an order of the Court:—

The following are the particulars given by the defendants pursuant to the order made on the 29th day of November last upon the plaintiff's summons filed the 23rd day of the same month:—

1.—With reference to the 5th paragraph of the defendants' answer, the defendants say that at various times during the month of July, 1882, and prior to the signing of the agreement of the 1st day of August 1882 mentioned in the petition, the plaintiff informed Tong Mow-chee, now the Chairman of the defendant company, and also William Birt and Charles Oswald Liddell now the Agents and Secretaries of the defendant Company, that he, the plaintiff, was a duly qualified engineer, and that he had had considerable experience in glass manufacturing, having constructed and managed a glass factory in Hongkong and that he knew all about the manufacture of glass, and he also informed the said Tong Mow chee that he had constructed and fitted up a Silk Filature at Shanghai for Messrs. Russell & Co.

2.—With reference to the 6th paragraph of the defendants' answer the defendants say that in the month of July, 1882, the plaintiff, by representing to the said Tong Mow-chee and the other directors of the defendant company that a certain piece of land was situated near to the Shanghai Gas Works, and that it was suitable for a site for the defendants' proposed works, induced the defendants to purchase the said land for a large sum of money, whereas the said land was not situated near the said Gas Works and was not suitable for the defendants' works and the defendants have not been able to use the same or to resell the same; and also that in the month of April, 1883 the plaintiff ordered and bought at the expense of the defendants' ten tons of limestone, whereas all that was wanted for the purposes of the defendants business was a few pounds; and also that in the month of May, 1883, the plaintiff ordered and bought at the expense of the defendants upwards of 23 tons of fire-clay, whereas all that was wanted for the purpose of the said business was a few catties; and also that the plaintiff so negligently superintended the filling in of the land ultimately bought for the site of the defendants' works, that he suffered the workmen employed to make an excavation within the said site, and the defendants were afterwards put to great expense in filling up the said excavation; and also that the plaintiff failed to make the necessary plans for the use of the contractor for erecting the defendants' works, and consequently the defendants were obliged to employ and pay an architect to make such plans and to superintend the erection of the said works; and also that the plaintiff failed to construct a furnace and other appliances requisite for certain experiments which it was important for the defendants to make, and consequently the defendants were put to expense and were delayed in their undertaking; and also that the plaintiff, after his return from Europe and before the termination of his engagement, almost constantly neglected the defendants' business and was on several occasions quarrelsome and violent in his conduct towards William Henry Gritton, a other servant of the defendants, and also towards the said William Birt and Charles Oswald Liddell, and was frequently under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

3.—With reference to the 7th paragraph of the defendants' answer the defendants say that on the 27th of May, 1883, at the premises know as Birt's Wharf, the plaintiff used abusive language towards the said William Birt and the said William Henry Gritton and attempted to strike the said William Birt, and that on the 2nd of June, 1883, the plaintiff, being requested in writing by Messrs. W. Birt & Co. as Agents and Secretaries of the defendant company to deliver to them certain books and papers belonging to the said Company, refused to deliver the same, and on the said Charles Oswald Liddell on the same day repeating the request personally, the plaintiff again refused to deliver the said books and papers and used violent abusive language and threatened the said Charles Oswald Liddell with a pistol.

Mr. DOWDALL, continuing, said—The plaintiff will prove that he is a duly qualified engineer—that he was admitted as a mechanical engineer and was duly qualified. With regard to his experience in glass manufacture, he was not engaged as a manufacturer of glass, but as an engineer and manager, and was to employ people to make and blow glass. But it is a fact that he had considerable experience in glass manufacture, because he had glass works and did manufacture glass in Hongkong. In China although the Chinese blow glass they do not really make it; they only melt old glass and reblow it. But in Hongkong the plaintiff actually made glass out of sand and other materials, and he had no one to show him how to make it, so that he really had considerable experience. It is quite a recognised thing that there are a great many secrets in the manufacture of glass, and the makers of glass only know enough to manufacture glass in their own way. Then the defendants say he informed Mr. Tong Mow-chee that he had constructed and fitted up a silk filature in Shanghai for Russell and Co. But Tong Mow-chee would probably know enough about who fitted up a great building like the silk filature to know that it was not Mr. Huestis. But he actually did fit up the machinery. Then with regard to the sixth paragraph of the answer, the plaintiff would say in answer to that, that it was not he who pointed out this land to the directors, but someone else, and I think he had never seen this land. It was pointed out by a Mr. Li. Then they say he bought ten tons of limestone, whereas all that was wanted was a few pounds. It seems that he did order four or five tons, and a boat came with ten tons, and the directors sanctioned its purchase. It seems that ten tons would have been used up in a time that would not be very long, and to talk about a few pounds is ridiculous. Then they say that he bought 23 tons of fire-clay, whereas all that was wanted was a few catties The explanation is this: there was a difficulty in getting fire clay, and they were able to obtain this twenty-three tons, but before it was actually delivered some English fire-clay was obtained, and some work was done with it. When these twenty-three tons came, it was found that it was about a quarter of the price of English fire-clay. It was seen by the directors, and with their approval it was bought. Then with regard to the defendants being obliged to employ an architect, the plaintiff was not engaged as an architect, and everyone knew he was not an architect; and besides this he was dismissed before even the foundations of the buildings were laid. Then as to the defendant failing to construct an experimental furnace, it seems that Mr. Gritton said he would like to use a furnace like that in his father's glass factory at home. He and the plaintiff considered it together, and some modifications were made in Mr. Gritton's idea, and the furnace was constructed. What other furnace it is that was not constructed I do not know. The next complaints are that the plaintiff almost constantly neglected his business, that he was quarrelsome and violent towards Mr. Gritton, Mr. Birt and Mr.

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Liddell, and that he was frequently under the influence of intoxicating liquor. These last words are the strongest, and the plaintiff assures me that there is not a single word of truth in them, and there is not a single unprejudiced witness who will say there is. You will hear a witness who would have an opportunity of seeing whether the plaintiff was occasionally intoxicated or not, and he will tell you he was not. As to his being quarrelsome and violent towards Mr. Gritton, he remonstrated with Mr. Gritton for keeping the furnace working so long, and perhaps that is the occasion referred to. The two disturbances to which I have referred—the one when there was a scuffle with Mr. Birt, and the other when Mr. Liddell asked for the books—are the only instances of disturbances: and if there are any others I am not prepared for them. Then as to the 7th paragraph, that refers to the occasion when Mr. Gritton returned on the Sunday after the glass had been kept hot for him since the previous morning. It says that the plaintiff attempted to strike Mr. Birt. Well, that is true, and he succeeded in it. I need not trouble you with any further details as to that disturbance, because the plaintiff will have to depose to the whole of the case in detail. The only thing I have to say further is that the plaintiff has been out of employment ever since. Nothing has turned up which would lighten the loss which he has incurred by being summarily dismissed. I will proceed to call the plaintiff, Mr. Huestis.

Benjamin N. Huestis, plaintiff in this suit, was then sworn. Examined by Mr. Dowdall, he said he was an American citizen and a mechanical engineer. The directors of the Chinese Glass Works Company when it was first started were Mr. Li Tze-chai and Mr. Fau Chong; there were only two directors then. He had known Fau-chong for about eighteen years, and Li for about four or five years. He (plaintiff) had established camphor works in Hongkong, and in connection with these he established glass works, which he carried on without the assistance of any other European. The Glass Works were carried on all the year round, and made about three piculs a day of clear glass, like window glass. The object of the glass works was to make glass retorts in the camphor refinery. It was in 1871 that he made glass in Hongkong, and in 1876 he returned to Shanghai, and after that he was for three or four years employed by Russell and Co., making experiments with silk machinery. The idea of starting this Chinese Glass Works Company originated with himself, and he first communicated it to Mr. Li, afterwards one of the original directors. His attention had been called to glass making by his own works in Hongkong, and he talked the matter over with Mr. Li, and proposed to start a company; and Mr. Li spoke of it to some of his friends, and finally told plaintiffs to go ahead with it and he (Mr. Li) would raise the capital. Then one day he saw Mr. Birt at his office. He had been talking to him about manufacturing glass some two or three months before; and when the capital was subscribed he proposed to give Mr. Birt the Secretaryship of the Company. The capital, 1,000 shares at Tls. 100, was all subscribed by Chinese, and it was after it was subscribed that he spoke to Mr. Birt about the Secretaryship. The Company was started about the end of July, the capital being then all provided for, and on the 4th August the plaintiff was engaged by contract as engineer and manager. The agreement was prepared in Mr. Birt's office. On the same day that he signed the agreement plaintiff started for Europe. He arrived in London on a Sunday, and on the following day he called at the office of Messrs. Birt and Co.'s agents, Messrs. Caldwell, Watson and Co., 23, Billiter Street, and consulted with them as to what steps they should take: The agents asked witness what were his plans for proceeding to get machinery, and witness suggested that they should advertize for an expert in glass manufacture, and through him find out where this machinery could be best obtained. The advertisement was put in the local papers for about a week, he believed, and a great number of applications came in—some fifty or sixty or more. He engaged this Mr. Gritton, through the representations of Messrs. Caldwell, Watson and Company, and plaintiff, accompanied by Mr. Gritton, proceeded to Birmingham. Mr. Gritton was engaged as an expert in glass blowing.

Mr. Dowdall explained that there were two kinds of glass experts—one a chemist and one a blower.

Plaintiff, continuing, said at Birmingham they visited Tangye's engine manufactory, and glass works; and after visiting other glass works in different parts of England they went to Dresden in Saxony, where there were celebrated glass works. Here after visiting the glass works, they saw Herr Zahn, who was, he believed, at the head of a government department having the supervision of all the glass-works in Prussia. They arranged with Herr Zahn to supply them with plans, with prescriptions and instructions for making glass and with plans for polishing machines. They agreed to pay him 20,000 marks equal in English money to a little less than £1,000. Herr Zahn asked for 25,000; but he finally agreed to take 20,000. The reason he had to pay so much was that the system of making glass was a patent, and he bought the right to use the patent in China and Japan, the plans were all secret; and the owners had patents for them in England, France and Germany. Plaintiff returned to England about the middle of December, and left for Shanghai seven or eight days later; but he would not have returned so soon had it not been for three different telegrams which he received from Messrs. Birt and Co., calling for his immediate return. He had not all the plans then; he had only some of them. Before he left Europe, he received a letter from Messrs. Birt and Co. about the purchase of land, and he sent a telegram informing him of the size of the land which would be required; and he instructed the agents to write asking them to have the land ready by the time he returned.

The Court here adjourned.

On the Court resuming in the afternoon,

The plaintiff, further examined by Mr. Dowdall, said—When I came back to Shanghai, I found the ground covered with coffins and graves. It was not suitable in shape. There was a creek running through it, and a large pond in the middle, and these had not been purchased. There was also a foot-path running through it, and this had not been purchased. There was not room enough for the buildings without these being purchased. There were also graves to purchase. They commenced to fill before the graves were purchased. They were not purchased until two months and a half after I returned. I returned in the middle of February, 1883. We went to work and purchased these graves and the footpath and creek. The land was not suitable then according to the plans, and we had to curtail the buildings some sixty feet in width.

Up to that time had you done what was required under the agreement?

Yes, Sir. I think I had done more. Before I went home, Mr. Birt wanted to sell his place known as Birts' Wharf to the Company. He wanted Tls. 30,000. I said I could not entertain anything of the kind. I could not recommend the Company to take it, as in the first place it was not large enough; besides, the Company could not afford so much for the land. Mr. Birt at that time was not yet appointed secretary and agent of the Company, and was not acquainted with any of the stockholders. When I came back from England, Mr. Birt wanted me to persuade the directors to sell the land opposite the Camp Hotel, as he knew where there was other land to be got which could be cleared without any trouble. He meant Birt's Wharf. I spoke to one of the directors about it, but I didn't recommend it. Mr. Birt said he could resell the land opposite the Camp for more than it cost, as there was so much trouble clearing the graves away. They went on with the land they had got. There were alterations in the plans of the building in consequence of the shape of the land, some rooms being taken out to make it less wide. Some experimental glass works were put up at Birt's Wharf by Mr. Gritton, the glass-blower, who wished to put up a furnace similar to one in his father's glass-blowing works in England. The furnace was built under the direction of Mr. Gritton; and I assisted him with my ideas when asked—I mean in showing the Chinese how to work out his ideas. The furnace was got into working order, and glass was made in it. I have heard Mr. Gritton make complaints to two of the directors, Mr. Li and Mr. Fauchong. Mr. Gritton begged me to take him before the directors so that he could explain to them how they were being swindled. I took him before the directors, and he made some statements. The statements were with regard to the prices they were paying for fire-bricks, the iron roof of the main building and the hanging of the boilers, and with regard to their agents in London not bearing a good character. When I returned to Shanghai, I never tried to get appointed Secretary; such I think never entered into my head; but Mr. Birt said he had been told by the directors that I was trying to get that position. The letter produced, dated 18th May, 1883, is signed by Mr. W. Birt. Shortly before I received that letter, Mr. Birt had been telling Mr. Gritton to stand by him and look out for which side his bread was buttered on, as he was going to get Mr. Huestis out of the Glass Company. Mr. Gritton told me this several times. As far as I remember I got what assistance I wanted in the performance of my duties from Mr. Birt. At the time when glass was first made in the experimental furnace, a disturbance occurred. That was about the 21st May on Sunday. The metal was prepared on Friday and was to be ready for blowing at 8 o'clock on Saturday morning. Mr. Gritton came in about half-past eight—he did not come to his room at my house that night—and complained that the metal was too cold. I said "Mr. Gritton,' the furnace is hot enough. Take a little out and try it." He then took some out and said it was too hot. He opened the furnace to cool it, and said it would be ready at about ten. He went away and returned between half-past 10 and 12; but he did not blow any glass that day. He went out driving at 2 o'clock on the Bubbling Well Road, the metal was kept hot all the time, I did not see him at the works again until half-past two or three o'clock on Sunday afternoon. The metal was still ready, and I told him he was not treating the Company properly, and was not paying proper attention to his business. Mr. Birt, who was present at the time, said it was none of my business; he did not wish Mr. Gritton to work on Sunday. Mr. Gritton also said "It is none of your business; I have had my instructions." I had called at Mr. Birt's office on the Friday and he accused me of having gone to the directors and applied for his situation, I said I had done nothing of the sort; and he said I had; he had heard it from three different persons. I again said I had done nothing of the sort, and Mr. Liddell asked me if I meant to call Birt and Co. liars. I said I didn't mean that. After I told Mr. Gritton that he was not paying proper attention to the Company's business, Mr. Birt again accused me of applying for his situation as secretary and agent. This was outside the

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building. Then we walked inside, and he still kept accusing me of it, and I told him it was not so. I then pointed to Mr. Gritton and said "This is the man you got your information from." Then Mr. Birt said it wasn't; he got it from the directors. I finally told him it was a lie; he didn't get it from the directors. He then began to shove, and finally struck at me. I saw the blow coming and I knocked it on one side. He hit may face and my glasses, which had no string on them, and fell on ground. I then returned the blow, and grappled with him. We were separated by his friends. They came up behind—I do not know who they were. I remained there for half an hour or three-quarters of an hour afterwards. We got outside and talked, friendly. Mr. Birt and Mr. Liddell, and Mr. Gritton, I should judge he had some beer in him at the time. There was another disturbance at my house, at Meadow-bank, on the 2nd June, at about half past 5 or 6 o'clock in the evening. Mr. Liddell, who is a partner of Birt and Co., came to me and demanded some books and papers belonging to the company, and I refused to give them to him. I told him that I could not give them up so long as I was manager and engineer of the works, as I required them for reference. Mr. Liddell declared that he would have them, and as the house belonged to the Glass Company he had a right to go in search for them. At this time he was walking round the dining table, flourishing a stick around and threatening to go into my wife's bedroom to look for these things. My wife was in there sick, with the amah. I told him he could not go in. He said he would. He then told Mr. Harris, the godown-keeper, who was standing outside, to go and call Mr. Birt. I supposed that Mr. Birt was in the yard. I stepped into the bedroom and the pistol was lying on the mantel-piece. I took it to put in my pocket, and my wife jumped up to take it away from me. If it hadn't been for that, Mr. Liddell would never have seen it. The pistol was not loaded. I put the pistol in my pocket and told Mr. Liddell I would not advise him to step over the door-sill of my bedroom. He then stepped out and told Mr. Harris to go and telephone to Mr. Birt. The godown keeper was away for about half-an-hour. Mr. Liddell and I went outside and sat down and talked, and in the meantime, I had sent my son for a policeman, and native constable 75 came up. When Mr. Harris came back he called Mr. Liddell down into the yard and they had some conversation and Mr. Liddell said "I am going away; I will be back in a little time." I gave the pistol to my boy—I think in Mr. Liddell's presence. I never threatened Mr. Liddell with it; he would never have seen it if it had not been for my wife jumping up to take it away from me. The letter produced, discharging me, is signed by Messrs. Birt and Co. I received that letter about five o'clock on the Monday evening. The letter states that a copy of the resolution of the directors empowering the agents to discharge me was enclosed; but no resolution was enclosed. I never at any time informed any of the directors that I was an experienced glass manufacturer. I said I understood something about it as I had glass works at Hongkong; but not as being an expert. I never told Tong Mow-chee or anybody else that I had constructed and fitted up a silk filature for Russell and Co. in Shanghai. I superintended the erection of some machinery at Russell's silk filature. I never recommended the directors to buy some land near the Gas Works or any land near the Soochow Creek. There was some land up the Soochow Creek belonging to the directors, which they expected to sell to the Company, and I believe the Company bought it. With regard to lime-stone, we wanted to get lime-stone to find out the quality of it, and we ordered a boat-load which turned out to be ten tons. With regard to fire-clay, the Works would use a great deal of fire-day for constructing furnaces and making crucibles—may be a hundred tons would be wanted. With regard to an excavation at the ground near the Camp, a small excavation was made to get earth to fill up the pond. Earth could have been got elsewhere; but we did not expect to build there, at the spot where we took the earth from. I never as far as my part of the construction was concerned failed to construct a furnace for experimental purposes. After my return from England, I never neglected the Company's business. Sometimes I was there till 10 o'clock at night. I have never had any words with any one connected with the business, except on the occasions of the disturbances I have described. I was never quarrelsome or violent towards Mr. Gritton, Mr. Birt or Mr. Liddell. I have since delivered up the books I was asked for on the 2nd of June. I delivered them up on the 4th or 5th June. I am not aware of any negligence or misconduct to which I can attribute my dismissal. I attribute my dismissal to jealousy, and to nothing else. Since I was dismissed, I have had no employment. I have looked out for employment, and I have something in view; but I dont know whether it will turn out or not.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wainewright:—I got my training as an engineer in America. I served five years' apprenticeship to a mechanical engineer, constructing machinery; I also studied military and mining engineering. That was at West-point, U.S.A. I was about a year on a steamer running between Panama and San Francisco as a marine engineer. Then I went to Peru. In 1863 or 1864, I came to Shanghai, and since then I have done some military engineering on the river for the Chinese Government, such as blowing up wrecks with torpedoes. The only manufacturing engineering I have done out here is in connection with the Camphor and Glass works in Hongkong, and the Silk Filature. I never represented myself to be a civil engineer. I did not show Mr. Tong Mow-chee a plan connected with Russell's silk filature. I might have shown him a plan of a silk filature, but not Russell's. My name was not put at the foot of that plan as Civil and Military Engineer. I should describe myself as M.M.P.E.—Military, Mining, Practical Engineer. But I generally sign myself simply as engineer. I have no plan connected with Messrs. Russell & Co.'s filature. I superintended the erection of machinery—boilers and engines and shafting and pumps. I had nothing to do with putting up the building; it was put up in an old building. I left Messrs. Russell & Co.'s employment to do better. I was negociating another business. The glass works in Hongkong were situated at East Point, in part of Messrs. Russell and Co.'s godowns. I did not make any glass for sale—only for my own purposes, making retorts. We used partly raw material and partly pellets of glass. This Company uses pellets of glass as well. This Company was started principally for window glass. I have had no experience in making window-glass. The retorts were made of blown glass. The works were simple in construction; but I could make my glass for about one quarter of what I could buy it outside for. It was blown by natives. The works would cover about fifteen feet by thirty. The works were blown down by the typhoon of September, 1874, and were not rebuilt. The date of the formation of the Glass Company in Shanghai was some time in May, June or July, 1882. I mean that the capital was raised about that time. I recollect a meeting held at the Shanghai Flour Mill on the 25th July, at which Mr. Li and Mr. Fauchong and Mr. Birt and myself were present. That was a preliminary meeting. Mr. Tong Mow-chee was present at that meeting, and was proposed for chairman of the Company. I had been in communication with Mr. Birt for some time before that, and about two weeks before he gave me some written papers about glass manufacture; but he did not give me any printed papers or any prospectus of the Company.

Mr. Wainewright—Did I ever lend you a Deed of Settlement?

Plaintiff—Yes, that was six years ago.

Mr. Wainewright—Oh! I did not know it was so long. I should be glad to have it back again.

The Plaintiff (continuing under cross-examination)—At the meeting at the Flour Mill, the directors were chosen, Messrs. Birt and Co. were appointed agents and Secretaries, and I was appointed manager and engineer. That was three days before the agreement was signed. The capital was all subscribed—that is it was all promised—before that meeting.

Mr. Wainewright—If that is so, why were Birt and Co. asked to subscribe Tls. 10,000?

Plaintiff—They afterwards asked for 200 shares for their friends. I do not think that 200 shares were appropriated to Birt and Co. at that meeting.

Mr. Wainewright—This agreement binds you to give your entire time to the preparation, erection and management of these Glass Works, for which your previous experiences particularly qualified you. What was the particular experience?

Plaintiff—The experience in Hongkong.

Mr. Wainewright—You told them you had made glass retorts in Hongkong?

Plaintiff—I told them I had Glass Works in Hongkong.

Plaintiff, under further cross-examination, said—I considered my duties under the agreement to be to select the machinery and plans for the factory, and to superintend the building of it. It was understood that I should be assisted by experts in the business. I was then to look after the factory.

Mr. Wainewright—Did not you give the directors to understand that you were competent to put up the buildings?

Plaintiff—No, Sir, I never said I was an architect; but I can make plans for buildings. I consider myself a judge of the different varieties of machinery for making glass, but I never represented so to the directors.

Then what did you tell them about your qualifications?—I told them that I had had Glass Works in Hongkong and that I understood a little about making glass, but I was not an expert at it.

And on those qualifications they engaged you for two years at $400 a month?—I also gave the directors some figures as to the consumption of glass in China and the prospects of success.

Mr. Wainewright—Did not your friend Mr. Li say he had a very nice piece of land opposite the Gas Works?

Plaintiff—No; he said he had some land opposite the Upper Boat House. I have never seen it.

Mr. Li had mentioned this land to you before, hadn't he?—He said he had land all ready for it; but I had nothing to do with it.

At this meeting were you not asked whether you knew this land?—No, Sir. It belonged to the directors.

Mr. Wainewright—No; it belonged to one of the directors—your friend Mr. Li.

Plaintiff—I think it belonged to two directors.

Mr. Wainewright—Oh! Perhaps Mr. Fauchong?

Plaintiff—It might have done. I don't know anything about it.

Mr. Wainewright—Then you did not express the opinion that it was a good site for the works.

The Plaintiff, further cross-examined, said—I sent three telegrams from England—one on my arrival in London, one about the size of the land, and one the day I

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left. The plans which I purchased from Dr. Zahn were such plans as a builder could work from, with the exception of the main building. They contain no plan of the building; they were plans of furnaces, polishing machinery, rolling table, etc. I have got a press copy letter book into which I copied letters connected with the Glass Company's business. When I returned to Shanghai, I went to the ground and had the graves removed, and recommended that it should be raised about five feet, to the level of the road. I superintended the raising; but it was not finished at the time I left. In the interval between my return in the middle of February and my discharge, I got this land cleared and raised, and we experimented in glass blowing at Birt's wharf; and there was nothing much else to do until the buildings were erected, except to make plans. I commenced to prepare plans for the main buildings; but after three weeks, the iron roof come out, and it was nine feet longer than the dimensions ordered, and that upset my plans. I then suggested that we should employ an architect. After that, I had nothing to do except to have the ground prepared. I had a great deal of trouble; some of the contractor's men got very roughly handled. I took some part in making the experimental factory, getting the iron-work made, and obtaining the materials. Mr. Gritton did not do a great deal. He put up the furnace one day and had it taken down the next day, and then had it put up again and taken down again. I looked after the building. The metal was prepared from books of instruction which I brought out for the company and which the company paid for. When I was in Europe, I ordered an engine and boilers, polishing machines and pulverisers, fire-bricks, roping and so forth—every thing, as far as could be seen at that time, that was required at the factory, with the exception of the chemicals. Mr. Gritton was not a chemist. I was instructed to engage a chemist, but I did not want to have two many men engaged before the works were prepared. It was before the meeting at the Flour Mill that Mr. Birt spoke to me about the Company taking his land; and he mentioned it again about a couple of weeks after I came back. I saw nothing of the prices of the things I ordered in England, because Birt and Co.'s agents took the business out of my hands. I ordered 80,000 fire-bricks, and Mr. Gritton told me that the price paid for them was about five shilling a thousand higher than it ought to have been. There was no ill feeling between me and Mr. Birt until after I received the letter of the 18th May. I called at the office; after that he said "you have been doing a nice thing for me, haven't you, Mr. Huestis? You have been coming and tapping me on the shoulders, and then going round to the directors and applying for my situation." I said I had not done so, and Mr. Birt said I had; he had heard it from some of the directors themselves. I again said I had not done so, and Mr. Liddell asked if I meant to call Birt and Co. liars. Then Mr. Birt complained of the cost of materials; but after that he said "Now you go, Mr. Huestis, and make a success the Glass Company; otherwise it will be a failure"; and we parted on friendly terms.

Mr. Wainewright—Then you had quite a quiet interview on the 19th. Did you ask any questions about the letter?

Plaintiff—No. On the day when the scuffle occurred at the Glass Works, there were present besides Mr. Birt, Mr. Liddell, Mr. Gritton and myself, a Chinese fireman, a Chinese glass-blower, and a friend of Mr. Gritton's—a Mr. Shepherd. Before Mr. Liddell came to my house for the books, I had received a written request from Messrs. Birt and Co. to hand them over. Mr. Harris brought the note, and I told him he could not have the books, as while I was manager and engineer of the Company, I required them for reference; I could not spare them.

Mr. Wainewright handed the following note to the plaintiff:—

"As the books are under lock and key, and the key is not to hand, I will be pleased to hand them over on Monday or Tuesday next.—Yours truly.

2. 6. 83. B. N. Huestis.

The plaintiff admitted that this note was in his handwriting. He said he intended at first to give up the books; but afterwards he changed his mind.

Mr. Wainewright—Where were the books then?

Plaintiff—They were under lock and key in my house.

Where was the key?—I do not know where the key was.

This note was not true, was it? It was only an excuse?—When I wrote that note I intended to give up the books; but I changed my mind.

Mr. Wainewright asked the plaintiff several time where the key was, and he replied that he did not know; but finally he said it was in the house somewhere."

Mr. Wainewright—Oh! Then it was only an excuse. You say Mr. Liddell was walking round the table flourishing a stick. Where were you?

Plaintiff—I was in the room. He walked between me and the table. I found him in my room when I came in. He came right in without any invitation.

You say you sent for a policeman. Did he come?—Yes; a native policeman.

What did you say to him?—I told him to wait outside, in case I should want to use him. The cook took his number.

Where is your boy now, that you gave the pistol to?—I do not know. He has left my service. Before he went away, Mr. Birt sent two or three men to my place to bribe my servants, the cook, boy and coolie, to give evidence against me.

How do you know that? They told me so.

What did you do?—I thought they might be going away, and I thought I had better take their evidence, so I got them to state exactly what these men from Birt and Co. had stated to them, and I took it down, and they signed it. He has on several occasions tried to bribe them.

Have you got the paper here?—Yes.

Did you read over the contents to them?—Yes I had an interpreter.

Who was the interpreter?—A friend of mine who understands Chinese.

What is his name?—He is a friend of mine.

What is his name?—His name is R. G. Huestis.

What was the date of this?—About a month after I was dismissed, I think.

The Court then adjourned till 10.30 on the following morning.

December 7th, 1883.

On the Court opening,

Mr. Dowdall handed the plaintiff a certified copy of the resolution of the directors dismissing him from the service of the company.

The Plaintiff said he did not remember ever seeing it before.

Mr. Dowdall produced the memorandum made out and signed by the defendant's servant, which had been asked for by Mr. Wainewright on the previous day.

The Plaintiff, further cross-examined by Mr. Wainewright, said the paper shown him was the declaration signed by his two servants. The writing was that of Mr. Huestis, and the statements were those of the boy and cook, he believed. Both the boy and cook were present when it was taken down. They talked in Chinese to Mr. R. G. Huestis, and he interpreted and took it down. Plaintiff, when he was in England, did not order all the machinery that was necessary. He left for Germany about four weeks after he arrived in England, and he believed that it was while he was in Germany that the engine and boilers were ordered. He ordered a pump from a gentleman whom he saw in the train going to Birmingham, but he had known the gentleman before, in Shanghai; he believed his name was Kyles. He ordered a pulveriser to be got, but the polishing machines were not ordered till after he left England, as they did not get the plans till after that. Mr. Gritton usually kept the accounts when he and the plaintiff were together in Europe, and for the time plaintiff was alone, he furnished vouchers for his expenses, and handed them to the London agents, Caldwell, Watson and Co. They promised him an account before he left for Shanghai; but they did not give it to him. There was an item of £12.15 for translations at Dresden. One interpreter was from the Grand Hotel, and one from Messrs. Gunther and Rudolf of Dresden.

Mr. Wainewright put in the account of the plaintiff's expenses in Germany, and other accounts.

Mr. Wainewright then produced plans of the buildings for the Glass Works, which the plaintiff said were partly prepared under his direction and partly by himself.

Plaintiff, further examined, said after working for a fortnight or three weeks on the plans, he had a tracer or draughtsman provided for him. When he began to draw these plans, he intended to prepare specifications; but he would require assistance, and Mr. Liddell said he would render assistance. Plaintiff never actually did anything in the way of preparing specifications. He roughly marked out the site for them to fill in by. Mr. Birt went round the site with him once. Boundary stones were put up, but they had to be taken down again. Pao-chee was the contractor for filling in the ground; he was not recommended by plaintiff. Tenders for the main building were advertised for and opened just before plaintiff was dismissed. Those were on plans furnished by Kingsmill. Plaintiff ordered the limestone; but he did not remember whether he gave Mr. Birt the order or Mr. Pao-chee. It might have been his friend Mr. Li, who was one of the directors. On the question being repeated, he said he now remembered that he asked Mr. Li to get the lime-stone and the fire-clay. Mr. Li did not say he had got some which he wanted to sell; Mr. Li got it from his friends up country. Plaintiff had previously tested Chinese fire-clay. Plaintiff was always on very good terms with Mr. Gritton. They never had any trouble up to the time he received the letter of the 18th May, and after that they never had any trouble beyond plaintiff's complaining that Mr. Gritton did not attend to his business. It might have been about the 15th May that they first had a disagreement. It was about the 20th or 21st of the month that he saw Mr. Gritton driving on the Bubbling Well Road. It was on a Saturday—the 19th May. Mr. Gritton, who lived in plaintiff's house, did not sleep in plaintiff's house the night before that. He did not remember whether Mr. Gritton ever slept in his (plaintiff's) house after that.

Mr. Wainewright handed a letter to the plaintiff, dated the 19th May, addressed to the Chairman and directors of the Company, and stating that he could not live any longer in Mr. Huestis's house.

Plaintiff, after reading the letter, repeated that he had no quarrel with Gritton on the 19th May. On the 20th, after the trouble at the experimental works, he told Mr. Gritton that he would not have him in the house any longer.

Mr. Wainewright—These books and papers. What use were you making of them when you refused to give them up?

Plaintiff—I was making no use of them at all.

What use had you been making of them—I mean you personally?—None.

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You were not using any of them and had not been using them and were not going to use them personally?—No.

Do you know whether any of these books were copied while they were in your custody?—I believe Mr. Gritton took off a few copies of receipts, and glass was made from them.

Did you see him making copies? Yes.

Have you any copies from that book?—No, Sir.

Do you know where those copies are now?—I delivered them up to Birt and Co.

I mean the copies that Mr. Gritton took?—He copied them into his pocket book.

Did you ever see this before (a preliminary estimate of the expenses of the Company)?—That document was produced, I think, at the Flour Mill. I had never seen it before. It was handed round, but no use was made of it.

Are you not aware that the promoters of the Company paid Messrs. Birt & Co. for these figures?—They paid Messrs. Birt & Co. Tls. 1,000, for office expenses, stationery and so forth.

Do you recollect on the 26th April or thereabouts sending instructions through Mr. Gritton to several manufacturers to send price lists and particulars of certain things to the Shanghai Post Office, addressed to you?—I remember that being done through the suggestion of Mr. Gritton. Mr. Gritton wrote himself; I did not know the makers.

But you did agree to Mr. Gritton's writing?—He suggested it, and I said, "You can do it.

Mr. DOWDALL said he had omitted in his examination-in-chief to put a question to the plaintiff with reference to the charge of drunkenness.

His LORDSHIP—Were you ever under the influence of intoxicating liquor during the continuance of this agreement?

Plaintiff—No, Sir.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—What do you call being under the influence of intoxicating liquor?

Plaintiff—I am not a teetotaller or a total abstainer. I have drunk with Mr. Birt.

You never drank more than was good for you?—I never drink to excess at any time.

The Plaintiff, in answer to a question put by Mr. Dowdall in re-examination, said he kept the books for three days after Mr. Liddell demanded them and then returned them.

His LORDSHIP asked if the jurors had any questions to ask.

A JURYMAN—The jury would like to ask one question: Why it is that so long a time has elapsed before he brought this claim against the Glass Works and whether any attempts were made to compromise?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said with regard to the latter question that something was done without prejudice.

His LORDSHIP said the jury were entitled to ask the question.

The Plaintiff said the action was commenced just before the vacation, and then after the vacation his Lordship went to Canton.

His LORDSHIP—When was the petition filed?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The dismissal took place on the 4th July, and the petition was filed on the 24th October.

His LORDSHIP said there did not seem to have been any great delay.

A JURYMAN—Did anything pass in the way of negociations to compromise?

Plaintiff—At first they offered me $1,000.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—That offer was not made in writing; it was merely in conversation; it was never formally made.

His LORDSHIP—That was done through the lawyers? Plaintiff—Yes.

His LORDSHIP—Not from the agents to you?—No, Sir.

A Juryman asked why the general account of the plaintiff's expenses in Europe, made up by Messrs. Birt and Co.'s agents in London, had not been put in.

Mr WAINEWRIGHT—We will produce that in good time, my Lord. The plaintiff would not have that; it was rendered to Birt and Co. With regard to the thousand dollars, I think my learned friend's recollection of that will agree with my own. I said to him that we should spend a lot of money in a case of this kind, if we went into Court, and I thought if the plaintiff would take $1,000 we should give it him. Of course that was entirely without prejudice.

Mr. DOWDALL—That is quite as Mr. Wainewright has said, and if the question had not been asked by the jury, it would never have come out.

LI CHI-CHA was then sworn as a Christian and examined in English. He said he was a British subject, having been born in Penang.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—He is a defendant then, within the jurisdiction of the Court

The Witness, examined by Mr. Dowdall, said he was a proprietor of Flour Mills and lived at Shanghai. For same time he was a director of the defendant Company. He had known Mr. Huestis, the plaintiff, for about four years, and he knew that he was an engineer. Mr. Huestis told him that he had done some work at Russell's Filature. Witness knew he had camphor refining works at Hongkong, and Mr. Huestis said he had a glass factory. Mr. Huestis first started the idea of a Glass Company, and first talked to witness about it two or three years ago. At last, Mr. Huestis gave him a rough estimate of the cost of the works, and witness paid more attention to it. Witness then went out to get some friends to take up stocks. It took him about six or seven months to get stocks up, and last year about July, they concluded to get up the company. Mr. Huestis suggested to witness that they should make Mr. Birt, Secretary and Agent. The stockholders and witness at first objected, and at last consented. One day they had a meeting at witness's Flour Mill, and afterwards they had a meeting at Mr. Birt's. At that meeting at Mr. Birt's, they got all the stocks and everything ready, and at that meeting they started the Company, and witness and Mr. Fau Chong were elected directors. Mr. Fau Chong's real name is Sun Yen-chung; but he is generally known to foreigners as Fau Chong. Mr. Tong Mow-chee was at the meeting, and he was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr Huestis was always known to be the engineer and manager of the factory. Mr. Fau Chong had known Mr. Huestis for many years more than witness. Mr. Huestis said he had made glass in Hongkong, and he knew something about glass manufacture. The plaintiff did not say he had built Russell's Filature; but he said he had done some iron working there. Witness proposed to the Board that they should send Mr. Huestis to Europe, and he asked Mr. Birt to prepare an agreement for Mr. Huestis to sign before he went away. The Board assented to that. Witness was at a meeting of the Board held shortly after Mr. Huestis's return to England. Mr. Huestis made a report of his proceedings in Europe, and the Board congratulated him on what to had done; they thought he had done very well; he brought some plans. Mr. Birt said Mr. Huestis had done very well indeed. Mr. Huestis afterwards went to see the state of the ground, and to fill it up; but he did not see the contractor at that time. He saw him afterwards. Witness saw Mr. Huestis at the ground many times, and he heard Mr. Huestis give the contractor orders to fill up the pond and creeks. Mr. Huestis, between the time of his return from England and dismissal, gave orders to the contractor and also attended at the experimental works. Witness was a director of the Company on the 18th May; but he never heard of the letter produced, dated the 18th May, and signed by Birt & Co., at any meeting of the directors held on or before the 18th May. He attended all the meetings held shortly before that date; but he was not present at any meeting when it was resolved to send this letter. He was subsequently present at a meeting when Mr. Birt said he had had some trouble with Mr. Huestis, and Mr. Huestis caught him by the collar. He wanted to dismiss Mr. Huestis. Mr. Gritton was admitted to the meeting, and the directors present were Tong Mow-chee, the Chairman, Mr. Fau Chong and witness. Mr. Birt got Mr. Gritton to narrate something which witness did not want to hear, and witness stopped him. Mr. Gritton said that Mr. Huestis always had liquor in him. Witness stopped Mr. Gritton and told him not to tell such lies. Mr. Gritton went on telling stories, and witness left the room. Witness asked Mr. Birt why he did not get Mr. Huestis in to plead his own case, and Mr. Birt said he had been sent for. Witness told Mr. Birt to send for the plaintiff, but Mr. Huestis did not appear, and witness was informed that no note had been sent to him. They waited till past five o'clock and witness left the room. No resolution was passed. The next meeting was held next day, and witness went in a few minutes late. The directors present were Mr. Fau Chong and himself.

Mr. DOWDALL—Was Mr. Tong Mow-chee present?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. DOWDALL—He is a director.

Witness—No; he is Chairman.

Mr. DOWDALL—But the Chairman is a director.

Witness—No, the Chairman is not a director; the Chairman is the Chairman (laughter)—continuing, he said Mr. Birt attended the meeting as Secretary. Mr. Birt proposed to dismiss Mr. Huestis. Witness said he would have nothing to do with it, and said if Mr. Birt insisted in Mr. Huestis being dismissed he would resign. There was no vote on the resolution. A resolution was passed, but there was no vote. Witness and Fau Chong were against, but the Chairman backed up Mr. Birt. Witness said it was a quarrel between Mr. Birt and Mr. Huestis, and it was nothing to do with the Company. Witness had never seen Mr. Huestis intoxicated, though he saw him four or five times a week during his employment by the Company.

The Court then adjourned. On resuming in the afternoon,

LI CHI-CHA, cross-examined by Mr. Wainewright, said he was not the sole proprietor of the Shanghai Flour Mills; he had three partners. They called it the Shanghai Flour Mill Company. He had had very little experience of practical engineering in connection with manufactures. He knew from his friends in Hongkong that Mr. Huestis had camphor works there. The work belonged to a Company—Gibb, Livingston and a house at Amoy—Ellis & Co. Mr. Huestis told witness that many years ago he had spoken to somebody about starting Glass Works. The prospectus produced he never saw till after the meeting at witness's Flour Mill. Witness saw a copy of the estimated working expenses of the Company before that meeting. The first time he talked to Tong Mow-chee about the Company was on the 1st July. All the stock was taken up before the first meeting, by fifteen or sixteen of witness's Chinese friends.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT read minutes of the preliminary meeting, according to which 300 shares were allotted to Mr. Tong Mow-chee; 200 to Mr. Fau Chong, 300 to Mr. Li, and 200 to the Secretaries

The witness repeated that the shares were taken up before the meeting. He took 300 shares to distribute amongst his friends. All the shares were taken up; but Mr. Birt wanted 200 shares to dis-

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tribute among his Chinese friends, and 200 were allotted.

Mr. Wainewright—Is it true that you could never provide the money for your shares?

Witness—I paid all up except Tls. 2,000; and the Company owed me money for land.

At this first meeting you informed the promoters that you had about fifty mow of land situated on the Soochow Creek, and that you would be happy to sell it to the company for Tls. 150 a mow?—Yes; it was opposite the Boat House.

At the next meeting, held on the 20th July, at Messrs. Birt's, you told the directors, did you not, that you could not hold your offer open any longer, because you had another purchaser for the land?—No; I did not say so; but one of my men said so.

Did you tell him to say so?—No.

Was it true?—I do not know.

Did not you at that meeting state that you wanted an immediate answer because you had another offer for the land, from Messrs. Maitland & Co?—No; I did not say that. I said if the Company would take the land I should like to sell it to them; it was a very good piece.

Did not you tell them you had another offer?—No, Sir.

But one of your men did?—Yes.

Was he at the meeting?—I suppose he was.

You *suppose* so?—I recollect he was.

Did you hear him say it?—Yes.

And you did not contradict it?—No.

But you knew it was not true?—Well, I did not know that.

What was the man's name?—Chi Kunting.

His Lordship—What is the name?

Mr. Wainewright—Something beginning with "Cheek" my Lord. (Laughter.)

The name was repeated.

Mr. Wainewright—The Company having agreed to take the land, did you go with them to measure it?—No.

Did this same man go?—Yes.

Are you aware that it was found to be only thirty-six mow?—It was in two pieces.

And one piece you had not bought?—Yes, I had bought it; it was about fourteen mow; but the boundaries were not fixed.

His Lordship—What bearing has this on the case?

Mr. Wainewright—My object is to show that this director and the plaintiff together—I do not wish to characterize it by a harsh word—contrived to sell the Company a perfectly useless piece of land at a high price. And then when this director had made as much as he could out the company, and when they shelved his friend, he retired. In fact, they swindled the company. Their selling us a piece of ground on false representation was one of the grounds which made us distrust the plaintiff; and then when we found him fighting, and refusing to give up the property of the company, we came to the conclusion that we must dismiss him.

His Lordship—It seems to me to be a side issue.

Mr. Wainewright—We felt that he had been injuring the Company, and we came to the conclusion that we could not keep him any longer. This transaction was one of the first which opened our eyes to the character of the plaintiff—(To the witness). Where was this piece of land?

Witness—Opposite the Upper Boathouse.

Several miles from it?—Well, I don't know how far. It was on the other side of the river.

You wont undertake to say it was not two miles off?—No, I don't know the distance.

And you are prepared to swear that the whole of the ground was your property? How much did they pay you for it?—Tls. 150 a mow.

Tls. 7,500?—Yes

And they never used the piece of ground?—No.

In answer to further questions, the witness said he resigned from the Board of directors before he received the money for his land.

Mr. Wainewright—But after you got the order for payment?—Yes.

The Witness admitted that he was present at a meeting of directors held on the 23rd September last year, when it was resolved to purchase the site at Yangtszepoo, afterwards used.

Mr. Wainewright—As one of the directors, what did you understand that Mr. Huestis was to do for his $400 a month?—He was to be manager and engineer of the works.

But the works did not exist. What was he to do with regard to the construction of the works?—When the houses were erected, he was to be the manager.

He was not to put up the houses?—I did not consider that to be his duty, because he was not an architect.

How could he manage the works unless he was an experienced glass manufacturer?—It is not necessary for a manager to be an experienced glass manufacturer.

What was he to do?—To manage the business, look after the accounts and look after the men.

And walk about—exactly so. Had you anything to do with buying the land down at Yangtsepoo?—Nothing.

Anything to do with clearing the ground from graves?—I assisted Mr. Huestis with the contractors, by interpreting.

Do you know that the contractor agreed to remove five graves and three coffins for Tls. 1,050, creek included?—No.

You had nothing to do with it, beyond interpreting?—No, nothing.

The plaintiff, further cross-examined, said—Mr. Birt was not a director; he was Secretary and Agent. He admitted having signed the Deed of Settlement in which Mr. Birt was named a director. There had never been any meeting of shareholders since the c mpany was formed. The plaintiff did not owe him any money, and he had not guaranteed any payment for the plaintiff.

Augustus H. Maertens was then called. Examined by Mr. Dowdall, he said he was manager of the Kungping Silk Filature. He had known the plaintiff for six years. When he (witness) started Russell's Silk Filature, the plaintiff was engaged to put up boilers, engines, pumps and shaftings. The plaintiff had a patent for feeding boilers with petroleum instead of coal. They used it at the Silk Filature and it was very successful. He believed it was used in Europe and America, and on one or two of the American steamers. It was quite successful, and Mr. Forbes was trying to get a patent for it for Mr. Huestis. He had never seen Mr. Huestis otherwise than sober.

The Witness, cross-examined by Mr. Wainewright, said the contractor for the boilers, engines, etc., which the plaintiff put up at Russell's Silk Filature was Fau Chong. The petroleum system was the plaintiff's invention, and he believed Mr. Forbes was still exerting himself to obtain a patent for it.

Leong Pak, glass blower, was then called and examined by Mr. Dowdall, Mr. Laisun acting as interpreter. He said he was employed for thirty-eight days at the glass works at Birt's Wharf, and he remembered a disturbance taking place there between foreigners some time in the fourth Chinese moon. The manager used to come four or five times a day to see them working, and one day while the manager was there, Mr. Birt came and spoke to the foreign glass blower; but witness did not know what he said, as he did not understand English. After they had been talking for some time, a scuffle occurred, and the manager's spectacles were knocked off by Mr. Birt. He said Mr. Birt commenced the scuffle. Mr. Gritton's boy picked up the spectacles, and then they all went out and witness saw no more of it.

Cross-examined by Mr. Wainewright, the witness said at the commencement of the scuffle Mr. Birt spoke a few words and then lifted his arm; but witness did not know how many blows were given, as he was blowing lamp glasses at the time, and did not notice. He never saw any quarrelling at any time between the manager and the foreign glass blower.

Yang Wing, another glass blower at the factory at Birt's Wharf, deposed to having seen Mr. Birt strike the manager on the occasion in question. He did not know what words they said.

Cross-examined, the witness said he was blowing lamp glasses at the time. He only saw Mr. Birt strike one blow, and he saw no blows struck by anybody else.

Chow Pao-ling said he was cook to the plaintiff. He knew Mr. Liddell, he remembered Mr. Liddell coming to Mr. Huestis's house at Yangtsze-poo. Mr. Liddell walked into the house as if he was going to fight. He walked round the dining room, and afterwards wanted to go into the bedroom; but Mr. Huestis stood against the door and would not let him go in.

Cross-examined, the witness said he was in the kitchen, looking through the hole to pass the dishes through.

Mr. Dowdall said he had no other witnesses except Mr. Fau Chong and Mr. Weed, neither of whom were in attendance.

The case was adjourned till Monday morning, the 10th December, at half past ten o'clock.

10th December, 1883.

James A. Weed, called as a witness for the plaintiff, said he was an American subject, and was in the employ of the Municipal Council. He had known the plaintiff's camphor works in Hongkong, and the glass works attached thereto. Witness was at that time employed by Messrs. Russell and Co., as godown keeper, and as his time was not fully occupied he was frequently in the glass works. At the beginning the plaintiff made glass out of raw material, and afterwards from time to time he added broken glass and also sand. The glass manufactured was clear glass, like ordinary common window glass. The plaintiff had no foreigner to assist him, or to show him how to make the glass. He never noticed the plaintiff to be otherwise than sober.

Cross-examined, the witness said he had seen the plaintiff under the influence of liquor at night, after dinner; but he had never seen him incapacitated for work by drink.

Fau-chong was them called, but did not appear to be in attendance.

The Plaintiff was then recalled, and in answer to Mr. Dowdall he said he received no notice of, and no opportunity of attending, the meeting of directors at which it was resolved to discharge him.

Mr. Dowdall said he had done all he could procure the attendance of Mr. Fau-chong, and he had received a notice from the Consul that Mr. Fau-chong had been summoned, but as Mr. Fau-chong was not in attendance he would conclude his case without him. This finished his case.

Mr. Wainewright then said—May it please your Lordship and gentlemen of of the jury. I will now proceed to lay before you the case on the part of the defendants in this action. My remarks in the first place will be very brief, because I shall have an opportunity at the close of the evidence of addressing you more at length on the whole case, and it is not necessary for me to go through in any way the whole history of the case because that has already been substantially done by the

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plaintiff and his witnesses. The case of the defendants, as you will probably have seen from my cross-examination, and from the case generally, is that the plaintiff turned out to be a most useless and otherwise unsatisfactory employé; and the evidence will he directed to show what his shortcomings were, and what the causes were which ultimately led to his being dismissed from the service of the defendants. The principal incidents in his connection with the defendants which will be brought to your notice will be in the first place the part he took in inducing them to purchase a piece of land as a site for their proposed works which turned out to be most unsuitable, and which finally proved utterly useless. They have not been able to sell it, and they cannot make any use of it. The evidence on that point will contradict the plaintiff's evidence, and it will be for you to say which version is the true one. I shall lay evidence before you to prove that the plaintiff was distinctly asked whether he had seen this land, and whether it was a proper site for the works, and he assured the promoters that it was a very good site indeed; and they bought it of one of his friends, who was also a director, and who acted with the plaintiff, as we say, in doing as much harm as he could to the company—Mr. Li Chi-cha, the witness who gave evidence after the plaintiff. With regard to the plaintiff's operations in Europe, owing to the fact that Mr. Gritton, who was his associate there, has left Shanghai and we cannot get him here, we are unable to give in detail the history of those proceedings. Probably you think it fortunate that we cannot, because it would have taken up some time. But there are certain matters which he carried out, and certain matters which he did not carry out, about which we shall give some evidence. He went home to order machinery, and he only partially performed his work; and, shortly, he did things which were very foolish. He spent a great deal of money, and if at first we thought he had done very good work, yet ultimately we came to the conclusion that he had also done several foolish things in connection with the business. Then on his return it will be shown to you that from the first, although he undertook to prepare plans for buildings, yet in reality he was a drag on the operations of the company. His attempt to prepare plans broke down entirely, and we had to engage, at considerable expense, an architect to carry on what he attempted; and what he did he did in a way to plunge us into considerable expense. There is a certain amount of mystery as to the removal of graves. He undertook that; but I think that the evidence will be that we should have done a great deal better without him. He allowed the contractor to make a hole in the middle of the site which it cost us $400 to fill up, again. Then with regard to the experimental works, the little that he attempted to do had to be undone, and he showed that he was quite incapable of doing any of the work, theoretical or practical which the company was called upon to carry on. And then his behaviour at times can only be accounted for in one way, all his symptoms pointing to a too free use of stimulants; and he was always quarelling with Mr. Gritton and the agents, and in fact he was violent and quarrelsome throughout. And then finally when he set the Chairman of the Company and the agents at defiance, and refused to give up books which he has already told you were of no use to him—he was not using and did not intend to use them, —and when we find him assaulting or attempting to assault Mr. Birt, and following this up a few days afterwards by refusing to give up books and using violent language and bringing out a pistol—though we are not going to lay any evidence before you that he attempted to use or threatened to use it, but he used it for the purpose of intimidation, and backed it up with strong language—and refused to do what he was ordered in writing by the competent authorities, a majority of the directors resolved that it was impossible any longer to continue his services. We do not contend that it was for any one act alone—for his refusal to hand over the books and papers—that he was dismissed; but we say that a man who had been all through useless and troublesome and quarrelsome, and in fact who had done a great deal that was entirely inconsistent with his duty to his employers, had laid the foundation for his discharge; and when he shortly afterwards refused to obey a lawful order we felt that we were justified in discharging him. It was no fault of ours that he was not at the meeting at which he was discharged—though nothing turns upon that, because if a servant does not do his duty his master is not bound to call him before him and hear his explantion. He has to justify his action afterwards, and he is not bound to give his servant an opportunity of discussing the question whether he ought or ought not to be discharged. These are the points upon which we rest our defence. There will be some small points of law to be dealt with, but it will be more convenient for me to deal with these after the evidence. It will be for his Lordship to say whether certain acts would justify us in dismissing the plaintiff, and it will be for you, gentlemen, to say whether these acts were committed or not. My case will be in a great measure a contradiction of that set up by the plaintiff. I will proceed to call witnesses.

TONG MOW-CHEE was then called, and sworn as a Christian.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—You are acting as one of the managers of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company.

Witness—Yes, Sir, I am Acting General Manager.

And you are a shareholder in the Glass Works Company, and Chairman of the Board of Directors, and one of the defendants in this suit?—Yes.

When did you first make the acquaintance of the plaintiff?—Three or four days before the formation of the Company.

Where did you see him?—I had been sent for by Mr. Li, one of the persons who had been trying to float the Glass Works Company, and the first time I saw him was in the Flour Mill. Mr. Li and Mr. Fau-chong were there; it was in the latter part of July, 1882.

Were you, previous to that, asked by Mr. Li or anybody else to take shares in the company?—Not until three or four days before the formation of the company.

Had you before this meeting at the Flour Mill taken shares, or been asked to take shares?—I had no knowledge of the company before that.

What did Mr. Huestis say on the subject?—I first ascertained from Mr. Li and Mr. Fau-chong the prospects and the reasons of forming the company, and then they introduced Mr. Huestis to me, saying he knew about glass making, and they had thought about engaging him as overseer or superintendent of the works. Then I asked them what grounds they had for believing they could make the company pay—what they had for me to see in order to judge whether the company would pay, and then there were certain documents shown to me showing the importation of window-glass through the Customs. I saw at once that that was the chief thing we had to make—almost the sole thing we had to depend on.

His LORDSHIP—Who showed you that—the plaintiff or Mr. Li?—Both said they had made enquiries at the Customs as to what quantity was imported.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—And then?

Witness—And then I asked Mr. Huestis whether he knew how to make glass, and he told me he had glass works in connection with his camphor refining works at Hongkong, and made glass there.

Was nothing said about window glass?—That was what we were talking about. I understood that he knew about making window-glass and had made it before; because window-glass was the only thing mentioned at the time.

Did he tell you what he was by profession?—He said he was an engineer, and he showed me a plan purporting to be a filature of Russell and Co., and he said he drew it; and on looking at it I noticed at the foot of the plan, "B. N. Huestis, Civil and Military Engineer."

He told you that he drawn that plan?—Yes, and put up the filature.

Did he make any other representations about his qualifications?—He said he was able to conduct glass works, and that he knew everything about engineering and about glass making.

Was anything agreed upon at that meeting as to his being employed?—Yes; Mr. Li and Mr. Fau-chong said he had better be employed as manager and engineer of the works.

Did you agree?—Yes. At that time I thought the two other directors, as they proposed to appoint him, knew all about his qualifications.

Have you seen these figures before (the estimated expenses of the Company)?—That was shown me at the second meeting, when Mr. Birt was sent for.

Mr. Birt was not at the first meeting?—No.

At that meeting you did not decide anything definite?—No; not until the meeting at which Mr. Birt was sent for, when it was decided that Birt & Co. should be Secretaries and Agents of the Company.

Were you told at this second meeting that all the capital had been subscribed, or anything to that effect?—No, Mr. Li and Mr. Fau-chong said some shares had been promised, but these shareholders would not venture to subscribe their names until I became a director. They said they had promises from many friends. I was asked to get shares taken up; so I divided the thousand shares into four parts, appropriating 200 to Mr. Birt, 300 to Mr. Li, and 200 to Mr. Fau-chong, and I took 300 myself. They were to be taken up by the friends of the four persons.

At that meeting was anything said about a site for the works?—Yes; Mr. Li said he knew of a piece of ground on the Soochow Creek suitable for the works.

Did he say whereabouts it was?—He said nearly opposite the gas-works, on the other side of the creek.

Was Mr. Huestis present when he said that?—I think he was. I am not sure whether Mr. Huestis gave his opinion at the first or the second meeting, but I asked Mr. Huestis whether it was suitable, and he said yes. it was all right and proper—Mr. Fau-chong knew about it.

Did he or did he not say he had seen it?—I asked him whether he had seen it and whether it was suitable, and he said yes.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—At this meeting, on the 25th July, it seems that there was a resolution passed "That the directors accept the offer of some forty mow of land situated on the Soochow Creek, on refusal at six weeks from date, and the directors are to give a reply within that time." Was it at this meeting or subsequently that you asked Mr. Huestis whether it was suitable?

Witness—At that meeting. I assented to taking the land on that assertion; otherwise I should not have assented to it.

Where did you have your next meeting?—At Mr. Birt's Office. After the 25th July all the meetings were held at Mr. Birt's Office.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT read from the minutes of the next meeting, held on the 29th July, as follows:—"It was decided by the directors that the offer of 60 mow of land

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at Tls. 150 per mow, made by Mr. Li on behalf of his friends, be at once accepted." He asked—Can you recall what passed at this meeting?

Witness—Mr. Li said Maitland & Co. had offered him Tls. 150 per mow, not for the whole but for part of it, and if we took the whole at that price he would let the Company have it.

Was it Mr. Li, or was it a man of his?—The day before I went to this meeting Mr. Li sent his compradore, or his partner—the man who attends to all the outside business—and he said the land was being asked for, and asked me to make up my mind to take it; and then the next day when I went to Birt & Co. some questions were asked of Mr. Li himself, and he told me there had been an offer.

Was anything more said by Mr. Huestis about the suitability of the land on that occasion?—I do not recollect.

Then you agreed to buy the land?—Yes, at Tls. 15 per mow—about 50 mow.

Up to that time had anything been said to you about Mr. Birt selling the Company some land?—No; Mr. Birt did not say a word to me about selling us any land.

Did you complete the purchase of Mr. Li's land?—It was considered to be settled, because all the directors were present and they said, "take it."

Do you know anything about what became of it? Was it found suitable?—Mr. Birt was then requested by me to go and look at it before we paid the money, and to have it measured.

You did not look at it?—I have never seen the land myself.

What was afterwards done about the land?—The transfer had to be made, and the money paid. Mr. Birt returned and informed me that it was three or four miles up the creek from the gas works.

What was done about it then?—Well, we could not help it. We had accepted the sale and could not back out of, and I said we had better pay the money and have it transferred, and see about some other land afterwards.

Did you get some other land afterwards?—Yes; I bought it myself, opposite the Camp Hotel. I told Birt & Co. to pay the money for the other land to Mr. Li and have it transferred and report it at the Consulate. Mr. Birt informed me on his return that there was no road to it, and it was all surrounded by fields, and therefore I gave up the idea of erecting the buildings there. I have been out there since, and I have an idea of the position of the place, but I had nobody to point it out to me. We purchased land by the side of the Yang-tsze-poo Creek.

At the time Mr. Huestis was engaged, what did you understand were to be his duties?—I understood that he knew everything about the manufacture of glass, and therefore we allowed him $400. The services of the best engineer can be obtained for $200 or $250.

What did you expect him to do with reference to building the Company's works?—I was under the impression that he could carry it out.

Did you contemplate engaging an architect to put up the buildings?—I was satisfied that he could carry on everything without our employing an architect, and without our employing an engineer.

Did Mr. Birt at any time offer you land of his own, or any other land, as a site for the Company's works?—Never, excepting this piece which I bought. He said "You had better see about buying that."

As far as you know, had he any interest in that?—No.

Did he ever offer you Birt's Wharf as a site?—No; he never spoke about it.

Did he ever propose to you to sell the land opposite the Camp and buy another site?—No; I told him to go and sell the land on the Soochow Creek.

When Mr. Huestis returned from Europe, what did you know about his proceedings?—He brought out certain plans, and he reported what he had done in England.

Did you congratulate him?—Well as far as I knew what he had done I said, "You have done very well." He said he had engaged a chemist—Gritton—and he was coming out.

He told you Mr. Gritton was a chemist?—Yes.

Mr. Wainewright—He has degraded into a glass blower. He was a chemist when he come out.—(To witness.) Did you congratulate him?

Witness—Yes, but that referred to the patents which he had bought; not particularly to his other proceedings. The patents were what I alluded to.

Did Mr. Huestis, as far as you know, set to work and prepare plans and do everything that was necessary?—He was asked to do so.

Did you have any conversation with him about his preparing plans or anything of that kind, personally?—Yes. I went to Birt and Co.'s office for two or three days and hurried on Mr. Birt to have the land properly levelled and filled in and the buildings erected as soon as possible. Mr. Huestis had a house given to him next the land, in order to make the preparations.

Did they get on very fast?—At the end of two or three weeks I found that not a line of the plans had been drawn.

What did you do then?—I consulted Mr. Birt to see whether we were not bound to get some other person to make the plans and superintend the erection of the buildings. He recommended Mr. Kingsmill, and Mr. Kingsmill was engaged to do the work.

About that time did you see Mr. Huestis at all?—Yes; I saw him whenever I went to Birt's office. He appeared to be very busy and very urgent, but I did not find anything to satisfy me that progress was being made with the work.

He appeared to be very busy—but no results?—No results.

Do you know anything about the experimental works which were put up?—Yes. Mr. Birt came to me and asked my permission to have experimental works put up on his wharf.

Did you assent?—I assented on the understanding that he was not to charge any rent for the ground.

Did you ever go down and see anything done?—Yes; I was down there several times. Directly after the house was put up I went down and saw a furnace put up

By whom?—I took it to be under the supervision of Mr. Huestis. I asked Mr. Gritton who put up the furnace—it was not quite complete, and part was being taken down—and he said the furnace had been put up under Mr. Huestis's orders, and he (Mr. Gritton) had had to pull part of it down and put it to rights.

Did Mr. Huestis do anything more for the Company—besides failing to make plans?—He was sent down to the experimental works to look after them.

Did you see any results?—I went there three or four times, and I only once met him there. I did not see him do any work.

Did you see any glass made?—I saw glass being blown by Gritton and two Chinese glass-blowers.

Do you know anything about the filling in of the land?—No, I did not go down; but when the land was being filled in I was asked to examine some accounts for the work, and there was an item of $400 charged for filling a hole in the centre, which was reported to me as having been excavated by Mr. Huestis's orders. Mr. Pao-chi, the contractor for filling up the land, told me so. Pao chi also erected the experimental works.

Who recommended him?—Mr. Li Chi-cha.

Do you know anything about the terms upon which Mr. Huestis and Mr. Gritton were at this time?

The Witness was proceeding to state what had been told him by Mr Gritton as to the terms on which he and Mr. Huestis were working, when,

His Lordship interposed, objecting that this was not evidence. His Lordship said he had already taken down one statement—with regard to the erection of the furnace—which was not evidence, and he had struck it out of his notes.

Mr. Wainewright contended that under the circumstances a complaint made officially to the Chairman of the Company might be received from the Chairman as evidence.

His Lordship pointed out that it might be inconvenient to the defendants themselves if there were an appeal, and it was said at home then it was a case in which evidence had been improperly taken, and there was ground for a new trial.

Mr. Wainewright then said he would not press the question. He asked—Did anything come to your knowledge, as a director of the Company, as to the relation between Mr. Gritton and plaintiff?

Witness—Yes. In consequence of statements which Mr. Gritton made to me, he was sent for to come to a meeting of the directors, and state what had been said to him. Birt and Co. were also asked to send for Mr. Huestis and to keep him at hand to answer any questions that we might wish to put to him in consequence of what Mr. Gritton said.

The Court then adjourned. On resuming in the afternoon,

Mr. Tong Mow-chee was recalled.

Mr. Wainewright—As a matter of fact, did Mr. Gritton attend before a meeting of the directors and make some statements?—Yes.

Mr. Wainewright then handed the witness the minutes of a meeting of directors held on the 31st May, and asked if that was a correct record of what took place at the meeting which Mr. Gritton attended.

The Witness said it was.

Mr. Wainewright—Now the plaintiff has deposed that Mr. Gritton begged him to take him before the directors so that he might explain to them how they were being swindled. Do you recollect Mr. Gritton coming before the directors and going into this subject?

Witness—Yes, he did.

When was that?—I think that was previous to the meeting at which he made complaints about Mr. Huestis.

Where was that meeting held?—He made a complaint first on the wharfs, and afterwards he came to Birt & Co.'s office and represented these things.

What was it?—He was asked what he knew about certain things which he represented to me as being wrong, both about Mr. Huestis and about Birt & Co.'s agents in London.

Was the price of fire-bricks one of the things?—Yes; he alluded to everything that had been bought in England. He said that Birt and Co.'s agents there—

Mr. Dowdall objected that this was not evidence.

Mr. Wainewright said the plaintiff had given evidence about this, and he (Mr. Wainewright) had a right to elicit evidence in reply.

Mr. Dowdall said that all that he had elicited from the plaintiff was that at the instigation of the plaintiff a man made certain statements to the directors, and that thereby the plaintiff made himself offensive to Mr. Birt. He (Mr. Dowdall) did not ask whether those statements were true or not, and he did not ask what they were.

His Lordship said he apprehended that as the subject had once been touched it was competent for the defendants to go into it. Although according to his Lordship's idea these statements should not be received, evidence was received nowadays in the London Courts which at

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the time his Lordship was called to the bar would never have been admitted, and on appeal new trials had not been granted on the ground that such evidence had been received.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—Did you investigate these charges?

Witness—Yes.

And what was the result?—I made Birt and Co. produce all their vouchers and answer questions as to what Mr. Gritton had said as to their having swindled the Company by making more than the proper commission, and as to the price of the iron roofing. I then made enquiries of Mr. Kingsmill and others, and they said the price was a proper price and the commission was a proper commission.

His LORDSHIP—We may take it that you investigated the charges and found them groundless?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—On the 21st May he made certain statements about Mr. Huestis?

Witness—Yes.

I don't ask you what they were, as Mr. Huestis was not present; but they were not complimentary, I presume?—No; all about his faults.

Did Mr. Huestis ever say anything to you about his being appointed agent in place of Messrs. Birt and Co?—Mr. Li and Mr. Fau-chong both asked me to change the agency.

Did they suggest that Mr. Huestis should be agent instead of Mr. Birt?—That is what Mr. Fau-chong and Mr. Li proposed.

That he should be agent as well as manager?—Yes.

Was Mr. Huestis present on any of these occasions?—Once I saw him with Mr. Li, and they talked about this matter; on another occasion Mr. Fau-chong was there and asked me about the agency.

Did Mr. Huestis say anything to the effect that he was ready to act as agent? I mean did he support the application?—Yes.

Have you seen this letter before (the letter of the 18th May, directing the plaintiff to communicate with the directors only through Birt & Co.)?—Yes; I dictated it.

Verbatim?—Yes. I directed it to be written because I found the work getting confused. On several occasions I did not find Mr. Huestis and Mr. Gritton working together harmoniously. On some occasions they had words together, and on another occasion Mr. Huestis told me that Mr. Gritton was not competent to do the work he was engaged for. He was living at Mr. Huestis's house, and he said he used to go home too late and Mr. Huestis would not open the door for him, and he had to crawl in through the window. So that there could not be harmony between the two parties. And another reason was that these other two directors had been going down to the works almost daily, giving orders for the execution of work that they had no right to give; they were not managers, they were only directors. And I found that several bills which I had to sign were payable to Mr. Li and Mr. Fau-chong; they had supplied the goods themselves. And when I asked Mr. Huestis about them he could not say whether they were correct or not; he did not know what they were for, but they were to be paid because the directors had ordered the things.

And therefore you ordered that letter to be written?—Yes.

Did you afterwards give any directions about books being sent for that Mr. Huestis had in his possession?—Yes; I heard from outside that both Mr. Huestis and Mr. Gritton were speaking to or negociating with some other persons about another glass works company,—that was only a report,—and I went to Birt and Co.'s to ask whether our receipts and patents that we bought were locked up in the office, because they were valuable, and I was afraid that perhaps Huestis or Gritton might copy them. So I asked him to go and get all the books to the office and have them kept there.

Then came the dismissal of the plaintiff?—Yes.

That was carried at a particular meeting?—Yes. There were three present, and two agreed, and the third, though he did not agree to it, did not oppose it.

On what ground did you vote for his dismissal?—On all the grounds that have been related—his incompetency, his conduct towards the employés at the experimental works, and the trouble he made in giving up the books when Birt and Co. were sent to get them, and other causes which I had heard from Mr. Gritton—about accounts and the spending of money

What was the position which Mr. Birt occupied in connection with the Company? Was he, or was he not a director?—He was at first recommended as secretary or agent, and then at the first meeting in the flour mill I said Mr. Birt should be a director, because three were not enough; so I recommended Mr. Birt to be a director; the four to form the Board. He has acted as a director ever since.

His LORDSHIP—Was he elected a director?

Witness—Yes, at the meeting, the same as we were all elected.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—Do you know of a payment of Tls. 1,000 being made to Birt and Co. at an early stage of the Company's existence?

Witness—Yes. I think it was for expenses. I think it went towards paying for information, and for expenses in England. It was for expenses connected with the formation of the Company, and for expenses connected with testing some sand and materials in England.

As far as you as Chairman of the Company had an opportunity of seeing, while Mr. Huestis was in the Company's employ did you see any particular hostility towards him on the part of Mr. Birt? Mr. Huestis has spoken of jealousy. Did you see any jealousy for instance?—No, he treated all the employés in the same way. I never noticed any thing particular.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT then read and put in copies of the minutes of the various meetings of the directors to which reference had been made.

Mr. TONG MOW-CHEE was then cross-examined.

Mr. DOWDALL—When you saw the plan of Russell and Co.'s filature which Mr. Huestis showed you, did you understand that that was what an architect would call both a plan and elevation—drawings for the building?

Witness—I do not know about architects. It was one of the usual plans for buildings. I think there was an elevation.

Was that the present filature of Russell & Co., or the old filature?—I do not know. He said it it was a plan of the filature he built for Russell & Co.

Mr. DOWDALL—Don't you know that Russell and Co.'s filature was built—

Witness (interrupting)—I do not know anything about how many buildings Russell and Co. have. I only know that there is one filature on the Soochow Creek. I do not know whether that is the one, or another.

Did he produce the impression on your mind that he had built the filature on the Soochow Creek?—Yes. He said he had built the filature and erected the machinery.

The drawings cannot possibly have been of machinery to put into the house?—No machinery; it was a plan of a building.

The first meeting of the promoters was held, I understand, without Mr. Birt?—Yes—not a regular organised meeting, but just an informal meeting. I was invited by Mr. Li Chi-cha.

Was Mr. Birt present at the next meeting?—Yes.

How did it happen that he was there? Did you suggest his coming?—They told me before that Mr. Birt had something to do with getting information and floating the Company—that he had been talking to Mr. Huestis and the directors; and I asked them to get Mr. Birt to be present.

You are sure it was your suggestion?—Yes, I am sure.

200 shares, I think, were given to Mr. Birt for allotment?—Yes,

Do you know whether he has kept them?—I found out afterwards that he allotted some to his friends and retained some of them himself. They were all booked within one week.

And he allotted them without ever putting them on the market—without going to the brokers about it?—I do not know.

Now about this land on the creek,—although I do not know that we are much concerned about it,—how did you know it was not suitable for the works? Did it not adjoin water communication?—I sent the secretaries to go and look at it and report to me the position of the land and to find out from people who knew, whether it was suitable—to give me all the information they could with regard to its fitness.

Well, I suppose you got that?—Yes. They told me that the lot was inaccessible by roads, that it was all surrounded by fields and cotton grounds, and that it was so far up the creek that it would be hard to send up boats with materials. They said they went in a boat, and it took them half a day to go up the creek, and therefore they found it to be utterly unsuitable.

Did not it adjoin the creek?—Yes, it was on the creek-side.

Now I understand that you thought that Mr. Huestis knew all about glass making?—Yes.

Was it a mistake, then, of the agents to put into the agreement that he was to go home and engage a qualified chemist capable of discharging all the duties attending the manufacture of glass, and two qualified glass blowers capable of discharging the duties of such experts and instructing the Chinese? Was that a mistake of the agents?—The chemists and blowers would have nothing to do with the superintendent who knew all about glass blowing. If I was not under the impression that he could superintend the work, I should not have appointed him.

You say that Mr. Huestis thought Mr. Gritton was a chemist, and not a glass blower?—He was engaged as such. I do not know whether he was a chemist. He knew how to blow glass; I have seen him blowing glass.

I understand you to say that Mr. Huestis said he thought Mr. Gritton was not a glass-blower but a chemist?—I did not say so.

If you did say so, it was a mistake?—Yes.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The witness said Mr. Gritton was engaged as a chemist—not that Mr. Huestis said anything.

Mr. DOWDALL—Now about the furnace. Is it not possible that the fact was that the furnace was put up by Mr. Gritton and the alterations were suggested by Mr. Huestis?

Witness—The last time I went down I found Mr. Gritton putting up the furnace, and he reported to me that it had been taken down once, and on being asked whose idea it was, he said Mr. Huestis wanted the furnace to be done that way, and he found it unsuitable.

Did not you hear that Mr. Gritton wanted to put up a furnace the same as a furnace in his father's works at home?—No, I did not hear that.

Now as to the meeting at which Mr. Gritton was heard making complaints against Mr. Huestis and Mr. Huestis was not present. You say the directors ordered notice to be given to Mr. Huestis?—Yes.

(Our report will be continued in our next issue.)

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OPIUM

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 17TH NOVEMBER, 1883.

Imported	Malwa. Chests.	Malwa. Weight.	Patna. Chests.	Patna. Weight.	Benares. Chests.	Benares. Weight.	Persian. Chests.	Persian. Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	1,306½	1,300.50	190	228.00	..	..	..	..
Returned from shore on board R. Vessels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	20	20.00	2	2.40	..	..	..	..
Landed direct	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,326½	1,326.50	192	230.40	..	..	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	32	32.00	68	81.60	75	90.00	1	1.00

Re-Exported from board Receiving Vessels:—

Description.	Chinkiang. Chts.	Chinkiang. Wght.	Wuhu. Chts.	Wuhu. Wght.	Kiukiang. Chts.	Kiukiang. Wght.	Hankow. Chts.	Hankow. Wght.	Chefoo. Chts.	Chefoo. Wght.	Tientsin. Chts.	Tientsin. Wght.	Newchwang. Chts.	Newchwang. Wght.	Ningpo. Chts.	Ningpo. Wght.	Wénchow. Chts.	Wénchow. Wght.	Foochow. Chts.	Foochow. Wght.	Hongkong. Chts.	Hongkong. Wght.	Total. Ch.	Total. Wg.	Total. Pls.
Malwa	179¼	179.50	79½	79.50	18	18.00	45	45.00	9	9.00	291	291.00	14	14.00	166½	166.50	..	..	..	..	27	27.00	820½	822.50	
Patna	7	8.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.20	16	19.20	..	..	8	9.60	1	1.20	..	..	..	..	33	39.60	
Benares	19	22.80	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	6.00	..	..	..	..	15	18.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	46.80	
Parsian	2	2.00	..	..	..	..	1	1.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10.00	..	..	13	13.00	
Turkey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total	207½	212.70	79½	79.50	18	18.00	46	46.00	15	16.20	307	310.20	14	14.00	189½	194.10	1	1.20	10	10.00	27	27.00	914½	928.90	

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Shanghai, 12th December, 1883.

PIECE GOODS.—This mail's record will be found barren of interest and most unsatisfactory by all concerned, for beyond the telegram which states the home export of Plain Cottons to all China for last month at 15,000,000, yards there is literally nothing of a cheering character to be reported; and even that news, welcome as it is to the importer, has thus far proved ineffectual for good amongst the natives. But the fact is that the winter trade has been brought to a standstill by the derangement of the native Banking system. There is plenty of sycee in and around Shanghai, but its possessors will not give it circulation, some of them, no doubt, with the view of saving themselves and it from the attentions of the Mandarins, but the great majority of them because of their previous losses, and their fears for the future. The money will come back, but few expect to see it in quantity on this side of China New Year, and just as few are there who hope for any great activity in markets during its withholdment.

The war-blast of a fortnight ago has blown over, and peace seems as certain now as war was then. Everybody—foreigner and native—is glad in the prospect of peace, whatever the *New York Herald* correspondent may say to the contrary, for, although no fear was ever entertained that we should be brought face to face with war, it was felt that sooner or later business would suffer. The sinews would have had to be provided, and these can be manufactured in one way only—*Squeezing*.

The aggregates of the business published here since last mail left are as follows :—

Grey Shirtings.—8¼-lbs.—About 11,500 pieces, and 750 pieces 9¾ *a* 10-lbs.

White Shirtings.—550 pieces 56-reed and 1,000 pieces 72-reed.

T-Cloths.—600 pieces 7-lbs.

Drills.—300 pieces *English*.

Sheetings.—300 pieces *American*.

Turkey Reds.—280 pieces 2-lbs. *Mandarin*.

Camlets.—550 pieces partly "to arrive."

Long Ells.—500 pieces *Scarlet*.

Spanish Stripes.—150 pieces B.T.I., mostly *Scarlet*.

Lastings.—200 pieces *Double Stork* No. 10.

And saving in the items 8¼-lbs. *Shirtings*, *Drills* and *Camlets* lower prices have ruled throughout. Indeed, for *Shirtings* of good quality holders seem firm, some having refused cash offers, declining to break their rates. The enquiry is for Szechuen, where, it is said, further supplies have to go before the end of this year, and the settlement of which has been interfered with by the recent banking troubles. The credits which the dealers brought with them were found to be valueless and they have returned to Hankow for the hard silver wherewith to supply their needs.

There is nothing else in the past week's doings calling for special comment, excepting it be that a demand prevailed for a day or two for low priced *Black Lastings*, but there are now few such in stock and fewer holders inclined to sell at the rates offered.

P.S.—At the C.P.H. auction to-day the rates for *Camlets* ruled considerably higher than on this day week.

Metals.—From Mr. A. Bielfeld's report :—The week under review does not present any perceptible difference from its predecessor; there is a perfect stagnation in trade, and with the exception of Lead, for which there has been a reaction in favor of the holders, there has been little, if any, disposition to provide for present and future requirements; and there is a very unsettled feeling respecting the future that impedes business and imparts a dull and unsatisfactory tone. Lead.—At the beginning of the week some 150 tons LB were sold by weak speculators at ₮3.25 to 3.30, but since then a considerable rise in the home market has been reported, and rates have improved here in consequence. Sales are :—50 tons French at ₮3.40, 3 weeks delivery; 150 tons Enthoven ₮3.40, 1 month delivery. Nailrod Iron.—The demand has been small and stocks remain heavy. To sell freely further concessions would have to be made, which the principal holders decline to give, hence the business has been moderate; closing weak. Bar Iron.—The market remains quiet, but 50 tons small round Belgian have been sold at ₮1.95. Pig Iron.—150 tons No. 3 Gartsherrie are reported contracted for at ₮19.20 to arrive in 3 months, and a similar quantity has been resold for native account to Japan at ₮21.40. Old Iron—Remains dull and neglected; the only sale on record is 45 tons Scrap at ₮1.42. Tinplates.—There is moderate jobbing demand for plain, and of decorated assortments a parcel has been placed at ₮6.25. Steel.—Nothing doing. Spelter.—Some 200 piculs remelted have been resold at ₮4.00, Straits Tin.—The continued absence of demand has made the market easier. Quotations are nominal. Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing.—Small re-sales of copper sheathing have been made at ₮22.00. In Japan copper and yellow metal sheathing there has been no business. Iron Wire—is in moderate demand. A sale of 100 casks No. 16 to 25 is reported at ₮3.80.

Miscellaneous.—Mr. Bielfeld says in his report :—Matches.—Offers at auction for black dip safety's are not beyond Taels 8.00. There are no sales of any kind on record. Soap.—Dull and neglected. Window Glass—Remains dull at previous rates. Needles.—Continue very dull. Sales and contracts have been made on a very small scale. Aniline Dyes.—Business has been confined to the following small sales :—3,000 tins ea, 8 oz. China green, Flower chop at ₮0.18, 1,000 tins ea. 8 oz. violet at ₮0.30.

Kerosene Oil.—About 10.000 cases changed hands during the week at previous rates. At auction 3,000 cases Stella brand, sound, were put up, but the limit of ₮1.26 not being reached they were withdrawn. The market closes firm at ₮1·32 *a* 1.32½.

Opium.—Closing quotations : Malwa new ₮385, old ₮395; Patna new ₮420; Benares new ₮410.

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EXPORTS.

Silk.—The settlements are about 1,250 bales and they comprise chiefly YELLOW SILK, WILD, TUSSAH, 9/12 MOSS, SKEINS and only a few TSATLEES. The Mandarin's stock consists entirely of Tsatlee; and 1,000 bales go forward by the present mail.

There are more cheerful tidings of the silk market in Europe, and prices here would probably have advanced if exchange had not done so, and if money were easier; as it is purchases are ₱2½ higher per picul.

Settlements for the season 35,250 bales against 32,500 at the same time last year; 34,000 in 1881, 64,500 bales in 1880 and 46,000 in 1879. Stock unsold, 7,500 bales.

Among the Settlements of TSATLEES are:—Pagoda II at ₱378¾, III at ₱368¾, Mowfong at ₱377½ and ₱378¾, E-wo Eagle at ₱372½, E-wo Sable at ₱357½, Kinfong at ₱360¼, ₱362½ and ₱365¾; Vanloch and Saling at ₱357½, Cha-loch at ₱342½, Bird Chunling at ₱350, Fockling at ₱345 and ₱347½ Gold Elephant at ₱351¼ and ₱352½, Zebra at ₱350, Siebing Quongfong at ₱342½, Gold Kiling at ₱340/2½, HANGCHOWS—at ₱325 to ₱345, Blue Lion at ₱335. TAYSAAMS—Green Kahing at ₱310 to ₱320, White at ₱340 to ₱353¾, 9/12 Moss at ₱240/250. Long reel at ₱285. YELLOWS—Miencbows at ₱275. WONGCHOW at ₱205. SKEINS at ₱265. SHANTUNG at ₱275. TUSSAH at ₱120/122½.

Tea.—BLACK.—Settlements for the week amount to 5,329 half-chests, making a total for the season of 359,172 half-chests, against 390,505 in 1882. Prices have not changed, and the stock is now reduced to 4,335 half-chests with scarcely any likelihood of arrivals of consequence taking place during the remainder of the season.

Prices for the week have been—Ningchows ₱13 to 16, Hankow ₱10½ to 16, Shantam ₱8.50 to 10 per picul.

GREEN.—There has been only a small business in Pingsueys, and Country teas have not been so eagerly bought; nevertheless the settlements of the week amount to 13,000 half chests.—Moyunes and Fychows 13,083 ½-chests at ₱22 to 33 for the former and ₱22¼ to 23 for the latter. Teenkais at ₱23 to 38½. Pingsueys 1,230 ½-chests and 247 boxes at ₱12 to 25 per picul proportion.

STOCK.—Pingsuey	4,593	½-chests and	15,446	boxes	Against	11,963	½-chests and	15,312	boxes in last year.
Fychow and Moyune ...	18,350	,,	...	,,	,,	78,900	,,	..	,,
Shanghai packed	206	,,	...	,,	,,	631	,,	...	,,

Exchange.—Money continues to be very scarce and dear, though quoted low among the Chinese who are doing almost no business, and as there has been scarcely any demand for bank remittances our rates have again advanced. There has also been a fair supply of private paper. Transfers have risen from 5s. 1⅝d. to 5s. 1⅞d., demand drafts from 5s. 1⅞ l. to 5s. 2¼d, and Bank bills at 4 months' sight from 5s. 2½d. to 5s. 2¾d. Credits at 4 months' sight were sold early in the week at 5s. 2⅞d. and have since been placed at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 3⅛d. Documentary paper 1/8th higher. On France the rate for private paper at 4 months' sight has been f. 6.61 to f. 6.63. Rupees are 316 to 317.

Shares.—Transactions have not been many or heavy during the week, as loans are difficult to be obtained on shares and only at high rates of interest. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares have been sold for cash at 183 premium and exchange 71⅝, 184 and 181½ and exchange 71½, 176 and 180 and exchange 73; 182 and 183 and exchange 73 for 31st December, 193 for 29th February and 196 premium for 31st March. Canton Insurance shares have been placed at 105 and exchange 72½; Pootung Dock at 117½; Perak Tin Mining at $150 and $140; Selangors have advanced from $130 to $175 for cash, 195 for 3rd January and $190 for 29th February. Birt's Wharf Co. shares have been sold at ₱46½, and China Loan of 1881 at ₱500.

Chinese Market.—SUGAR—a small business doing; prices for brown Canton and Swatow are quoted slightly higher. PEPPER—black is 4 mace per picul lower and white has fallen about half a tael per picul. SANDALWOOD—not much doing—Timor is 2 mace per picul higher. COTTON—no change in quotations; business dull. HIDES—are 2 mace per picul lower. FLINTS—unchanged.

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8¼-lbs.—5,650 pieces, at (on 5th inst., *E-wo*), ₱1.46¼/46½ for *Red Tea Caddy*; (on 6th instant, *Yuen fong*) ₱1.12/11¾ for *Two Man*, ₱1.13¾/14½ for *House*, ₱1.21¼/21¾ for *Blue Britannia*, ₱1.39¼ for *Red Fish and Dragon*, and ₱1.48½/48 for *Painted Britannia*, and Miscellanous, ₱1.50 for Dewhurst's *Green Lion*, mildewed.

6-lbs.—1.000 pieces *Two Man* at ₱0.87½/87¼ per piece.

7-lbs.—900 pieces *Blue Britannia* at ₱1.08¼ per piece.

9¾-lbs. *a* 10-lbs.—3,900 pieces, at ₱2.00½ for *Blue Tea Caddy*, and ₱1.59/60, ₱1.79¾/79, and ₱2.08¼/08½ for *Blue, Red*, and *Painted Britannia*.

12-lbs.—610 pieces *Soldier* at ₱2.24¾/24½ per piece.

White Shirtings—64-reed, 1,500 pieces *Blue Light-house*, dressed and undressed, at ₱1.46/47¼ and ₱1.40½/40¾ per piece; and 72-reed 1,530 pieces, at ₱3.68½ for E.F, and ₱1.80½/81½ and ₱1.78¼/78 for *Red Light-house*, dressed and undressed.

T-Cloths—7-lbs., 2,000 pieces, *Blue* and *Painted Britannia* at ₱0.95½ and ₱1.08¾ per piece respectively.

6-lbs.—400 pieces *Stag, Stork, and Peacock*, at ₱0.84½ per piece.

Drills—405 pieces *English*, at ₱1.91 for *Stag*, ₱2.15¼/87 for *Britannia*, and ₱2.22¾/22¼ for *Fish and Dragon*, and 1,650 pieces *American*, damaged, *Boott Cock* at ₱2.09½/27½ per piece.

Jeans—360 pieces *English*, at ₱1.07/06¾ per piece.

Turkey Reds—280 pieces *Mandarin* at ₱1.14¼ for 2¼-lbs., ₱1.18¾ for 2½-lbs., and ₱1.23¾ for 3-lbs.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales. Pcs.
E-wo, 5th instant.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Pcs
Camlets, H.D.B.p.pc.	9.02½	.....	9.79	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	9.10	9.22	
Sales, pcs....	20	.....	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	50
LongEllS, H.D.B.p.pc.	4.62/59	.....	.....	.....	.....	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	
S.Stp., H.D.B., p.yd.	0.47.4	0.47.7	0.49½	.....	.....	...	...	...	0.43.7	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs....	24	6	12	.....	.....	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	48
YUEN-FONG, 6th inst.													
Camlets, S.S.G.p.pce.	8.85/95	9.67½/85	9.80/97½	.....	9.05/07½	...	...	...	8.25	...	9.10/12½	9.00/8.97½	
Sales, pcs....	160	70	100	.....	20	...	...	...	10	...	20	20	400
,, G.G. p.p.c...	9.05/07½	9.70/77½	10.00/02½	.....	9.32½	...	...	...	8.40	...	9.22½	9.20	
Sales, pcs....	80	30	50	.....	10	...	...	...	10	...	10	10	200
LongEllS, G.G., p.p....	4.98/97	.....	5.13	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs....	80	.....	20	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	100
Lastings, G.G., p.p....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
S.Stripes, T.T.B. p.yd.	0.48/47¾	0.48¼	0.48¾	0.47¼	.....	0.51½	...	0.48	0.44½	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs....	66	12	30	6	.....	3	...	3	6	...	...	...	126
UnionCloth, 2 Eagle 36in	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
KIN-MING, To-day.													
Camlets, C.P.H.p.pce.	9.32/36	9.83	10.42/48	.....	9.17½	...	...	...	...	...	9.33	9.73/59	
Sales, pcs....	60	20	20	.....	10	...	...	...	...	...	10	20	140
,, Ram chow p.p.	9.03/01	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Long Ells, C.P.H. p.p.	4.74/75	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs....	260	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
Lastings, Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	6.15/19	...	...	...	40
,, C.P.H.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	8.91/95	...	...	...	100
,, Elephant	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	7.30/31	...	...	...	60

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QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.		T.m.c.		T.m.c.	DUTY.* Tls. m. c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—					
6-lbs 39-in 38½-yds.....nom	₱ pc.	0.8.5	to	0.9.7	0.0.8 per pce.
7-lbs	,, ,,	0.9.5	,,	1.3.0	
Dewhurst's Eagle	,,	None	,,	.....	
8¼ to 8½-lbs.....	,,	1.0.5	,,	1.6.7	
D. Eagle XX	,,	1.6.0	,,	1.6.1	
9 to 9¼-lbs .....nom	,,	1.6.0	,,	1.9.0	
9¾ to 10-lbs. ..... ,,	,,	1.6.3	,,	2.2.0	
Dewhurst's, Best ..... ,,	,,	2.1.6	,,	2.4.5	
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in..	,,	2.0.0	,,	2.5.0	
12 lbs American 36 in	,,	2.4.0	,,	2.6.5	
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—					
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.....	₱ pc.	1.2.0	,,	1.3.5	
60-reed.....	,,	1.3.0	,,	1.4.2½	
64 ,, ...	,,	1.4.0	,,	1.8.0	
64 ,, Best and 66-reed ...	,,	1.6.0	,,	1.9.0	
72 to 80-reed	,,	1.7.5	,,	2.2.0	
Best	,,	2.2.5	,,	2.6.5	
DRILLS, Am. 40 yd 30-in 14-lbs	₱ pc.	2.4.0	,,	2.6.0	0.1.0 ,,
English, ,, 14 to 15-lbs, nom	,,	1.3.5	,,	1.8.5	
,, Good to Finest, nom	,,	1.9.0	,,	2.4.3	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs...nom	,,	1.6.5	,,	1.9.0	
JEANS, Dh., 30-yd 30in 8½-lbs	₱ pc.	1.5.5	,,	1.7.2½	0.0.7½ ,,
English, ,, 8 to 8¼-lbs	,,	1.0.5	,,	1.9.0½	
American ,, Beaver.....	,,	1.7.5	,,	2.2.0	
SHEETINGS—					
Am., 40yd. 36 to 38in. 14lbs.	₱ pc.	2.4.5	,,	2.8.0	0.0.8 ,,
Eng., ,, ,, 14 to 16lbs.	,,	1.7.0	,,	2.4.0	
T-CLOTHS—					
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	₱ pc.	0.8.0	,,	0.9.0	0.0.4 ,,
7-lbs ,, ,, ,, ,, ...	,,	0.8.5	,,	0.9.0	
6-lbs Mexican.....	,,	.....	,,	none	
7-lbs ,, ...	,,	0.9.5	,,	1.2.6	
7-lbs Mexican Special chops	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.6.5	
8 to 8¼-lbs.....	,,	1.2.0	,,	1.6.0	0.0.8 ,,
Better kinds and XX	,,	1.7.2½	,,	1.8.0	
HANDKERCHIEFS—					
Blue, 28 to 32-in.	₱ doz.	0.4.0	to	0.5.4	0.0.2½ per doz.
Brown .....nom	,,	0.3.5	,,	0.4.0	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White.	₱ pc.	1.8.0	,,	2.0.0	0.1.0 per pce.
Dyed, nom	,,	2.0.0	,,	2.3.0	0.1.5 ,,
BROCADES—White, 40-yd ...	,,	1.8.5	,,	2.0.0	0.1.0 ,,
Dyed	,,	2.2.5	,,	2.4.0	0.1.5 ,,
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom	,,	2.9.0	,,	3.7.5	0.2.0 ,,
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS	,,	1.9.0	,,	2.2.0	0.1.5 ,,
CHINTZ—Assorted	₱ pc.	1.1.0	,,	1.4.0	0.0.7 per pce.
Blue	,,	0.9.0	,,	1.1.5	
Brown.....nom	,,	1.1.0	,,	1.2.0	
Scarlet	,,	1.2.5	,,	1.4.0	

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.		T.m.c.		T.m.c.	DUTY.* Tls. m. c.
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds	₱ pc.	1.3.0	,,	1.7.0	0.0.7 per 30 yd.
50/52 ,,	,,	2.7.0	,,	3.4.0	
Special ...	,,	3.7.0	,,	.....	
TURKEY REDS—					
24-yd 1¾ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom	₱ pc.	0.8.0	,,	1.5.0	0.1.5 per pce.
Best	,,	1.6.0	,,	1.8.0	
VELVETS—Black, 22-in...nom	₱ yd.	0.1.2½	,,	0.1.6	0.1.8 per pce.
VELVETEENS—Black, 18-in ...	,,	0.0.9	,,	0.1.2½	0.1.5 ,,
26-in ...	,,	0.1.6	,,	0.1.7½	
BLUE DENIMS .....nom	,,	0.0.3	,,	0.0.4	5 per cent. ad. val.
DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in	₱ pc.	0.9.0	,,	1.2.0	0.0.6½ per pce.
41-in.....	,,	1.0.0	,,	1.3.4	
MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in	,,	0.5.2½	,,	0.6.2½	0.0.3½ ,,
YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32.	,,	67.0.0	,,	73.0.0	0.7.0 per pcl.
,, 16/24, nom	,,	59.0.0	,,	64.0.0	
CAMLETS—English, SS.....	₱ pc.	8.5.0	,,	9.7.5	0.0.5
GG	,,	9.4.0	,,	...	
SSG.....	,,	9.3.1	,,	.....	
HDB ...	,,	9.2.3	,,	.....	
CPH ...	,,	9.6.0	,,	.....	
Dutch, 33 to 24-in nom.	,,	15.0.0	,,	19.0.0	
Do. 37-in..... ,,	,,	16.5.0	,,	21.5.0	
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ...	₱ yd.	0.6.5	,,	1.1.0	0.1.2
SPANISH STRIPES	,,	0.3.5	,,	0.5.5	
,, HDB	,,	0.4.3.7	,,	0.4.9½	
,, TTB	,,	0.4.4½	,,	0.4.9¾	
,, HH	,,	0.5.0	,,	0.5.5	
,, BTI.....	,,	0.4.5¾	,,	0.4.8¼	
,, CPH	,,	0.4.7½	,,	0.4.8½	
LONG ELLS—					0.0.4½
Scarlet, 24-yd GG.....	₱ pc.	4.9.8	,,	4.9.7	
,, ,, HH.....	,,	5.1.0	,,	5.2.5	
,, ,, CPH	,,	4.7.4	,,	4.7.5	
,, ,, UU.....	,,	4.7.5	,,	4.7.6	
,, ,, HDB	,,	4.6.2	,,	4.5.9	
,, ,, Sundries ...	,,	4.6.0	,,	4.6.9	
Assorted, HH	,,	nom.	,,	.....	
,, CPH	,,	,,	,,	.....	
,, GG.....	,,	,,	,,	.....	
,, UU	,,	,,	,,	.....	
,, V	,,	.....	,,	.....	
LASTINGS, 30-yd	₱ pc.	5.2.5	,,	9.3.0	0.0.5
CRAPE LASTINGS, 30-yd nom	,,	2.5.0	,,	6.0.0	
CRAPE LUSTRES .... ,,	,,	.....	,,	.....	0.2.0 per pcl.
PLAIN LUSTRES, Black.....	,,	2.7.5	,,	3.4.0	
ORLEANS—Figured, 30-yd ...	,,	2.2.5	,,	2.7.5	
Special Colors & Patterns	,,	2.5.0	,,	3.3.0	

Per Chang of 141 inches.

* Haikwan Sycee Tls. 100 = Shanghai Currency Tls. 111.40.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS. T.m.c.		T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Tiles, best	per picul	18.5.0	@	19.0.0
,, Ore.....	,,	17.5.0	,,	18.0.0
QUICKSILVER—American	,,	43.0.0	,,	43.50
TIN PLATES—Parson's.....	per box	4.2.5	,,	4.5.0
STEEL.....	per tub	.....	,,	.....
Bamboo	per picul	3.1.0	,,	3.2.0
TIN, Foug Hing	,,	22.5.0	,,	.....
Fok Chok	,,	21.7.5	,,	.....
Chowkung, &c.	,,	21.0.0	,,	.....
PIG IRON	per ton	16.0.0	,,	21.5.0
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 *a* 21 ..... nom.	per picul	3.4.0	,,	3.6.0
,, ,, 14 *a* 25	,,	3.6.0	,,	3.8.0
,, ,, 18 *a* 25	,,	3.8.0	,,	4.0.0
IRON—Nail Rod—				
Dawes' Best	per picul	2.1.5	,,	2.2.0
H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	,,	2.0.5	,,	2.1.0
Sohier.....	,,	1.9.5	,,	1.9.7½
Belgian	,,	1.9.0	,,	1.9.5
English—Bar.....	,,	1.7.0	,,	2.0.0
Belgian— ,, ...	,,	1.4.0	,,	1.8.0
LEAD—				
I. B	,,	3.4.5	,,	3.5.0
French.....	,,			
German	,,			

SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS. T.m.c.		T.m.c.
SUGAR—				
White, Swatow, No. 1	per picul	4.9.0	@	5.3.0
,, ,, ,, 2	,,	4.2.0	,,	4.7.0
,, ,, ,, 3	,,	3.5.0	,,	4.0.0
White, Canton, No. 1	,,	4.8.0	,,	5.2.0
,, ,, ,, 2	,,	4.1.0	,,	4.6.0
,, ,, ,, 3	,,	3.4.0	,,	3.9.0
Brown, Swatow, Best.....	,,	3.1.0	,,	3.4.0
,, ,, Common.....	,,	2.7.0	,,	3.0.0
,, Canton.....	,,	3.0.0	,,	3.3.0
,, ,, Common.....	,,	2.6.0	,,	2.8.0
PEPPER—Black	,,	10.8.0	,,	11.8.0
White	,,	15.5.0	,,	16.5.0
RATTANS—Common	,,	3.0.0	,,	3.6.0
Good to fine	,,	.....	,,	.....
Best	,,	4.0.0	,,	5.0.0
SAPAN WOOD—				
3 pieces to the picul	per picul	1.8.0	,,	2.6.0
6 & 7 ,, ,, & inf.	,,	2.3.0	,,	2.6.0
SANDALWOOD, South Sea	,,	3.0.0	,,	3.3.0
Timor	,,	5.5.0	,,	8.5.0
Malabar	,,	13.0.0	,,	19.0.0
WINDOW GLASS—				
Good assortment	per box	2.3.0	,,	2.4.0
KEROSENE—Devoe's	per case	1.3.2	,,	1.3.2½
FLINT STONES	per picul	0.4.2	,,	0.4.6
COTTON—Shanghai, best.....	,,	11.4.0	,,	11.8.0
Compook ,, ...	,,	11.2.0	,,	11.6.0
RICE—Shanghai	p. 150 cat.	2.4.0	,,	2.6.0
Chinkiang.....	,,	2.0.0	,,	2.2.0
HIDES—Cow	per picul	13.2.0	,,	.....

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Str. "*TOKIO MARU*," cleared 1st December, for NEW YORK.—Musk 0.23.

Per Str. "*NEPAUL*," cleared 5th December, for LONDON.—Fine chinaware 3.50 piculs. Hides 220.30 piculs. Strawbraid 407.28 piculs. Musk 0.25½ piculs. Wool—camels' 133 piculs. For LYONS.—Silk—wild 18 piculs. For MARSEILLES.—Fish maws 7.82 piculs. Nutgalls 278.72 piculs. For HAMBURG.—Musk 0.15½ piculs. For VENICE.—Silk—waste 26 piculs.

Per Str. "*CANTON*," cleared 6th December, for NEW YORK.—Nutgalls 139 piculs. Strawbraid 394.62 piculs.

Per Str. "*GLENARTNEY*," cleared 6th December, for LONDON.—Hides 234.47 piculs. Tea seed 2.53 piculs. Strawbraid 388.03 piculs. Wool—camels' 99.34 piculs.

Per Str. "*GLAUCUS*," cleared 8th December, for LONDON.—Fine chinaware 7.04 piculs. Pigs' bristles 33.27 piculs. Feathers 29.46 piculs. Horse hair 8.25 piculs. Cow hides 92.80 piculs. Musk 0.15$\frac{3}{16}$ piculs. Rhubarb 74.64 piculs. Strawbraid 632.62 piculs. Wool—camels' 997.45 piculs. Straw hats 93,000. Rugs—goatskin 7,300.

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Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 10th December, 1883, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 282 to 287, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destinations.															
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Local.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings † .....Pcs	5,010	200	11,800	1,050	2,390	22,770	1,050	33,750	...	950	...	...	...	...	5,800	...
T-Cloths ..... ,,	660	50	800	200	1,430	4,950	3,564	3,825	...	1,975	...	...	...	...	2,075	...
White Shirtings ..... ,,	530	...	1,430	250	300	7,415	260	19,845	...	50	140	...	...	...	950	...
Drills, English and Dutch ... ,,	500	30	300	...	75	285	405	6,090	...	...	30	...	...	...	90	...
,, American ..... ,,	...	15	45	...	...	...	510	4,740	...	...	15	...	...	...	240	...
Jeans, English and Dutch ... ,,	100	...	...	...	30	720	80	1,900	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
,, American ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,160	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	...	...	20	210	...	960	780	480	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, American ..... ,,	...	...	60	...	...	1,400	840	8,640	..	...	...	...	...	...	540	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	360	...	108	...	30	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, ,, ,, Dyed. ,,	...	80	130	...	...	650	50	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	80	...	130	...	...	150	210	1,199	...	...	...	...	...	...	320	...
Printed Twills ..... ,,	80	80	240	...	...	900	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	...
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	200	...	340	...	50	268	910	1,520	...	100	...	...	...	...	100	...
Velvets ..... ,,	...	...	24	...	48	132	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...
Velveteens ... . ,,	...	...	...	...	...	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs .....Doz	...	...	1,200	200	640	1,270	...	400	...	...	200	...	...	...	200	...
Muslins .....Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn .....Pcls	...	...	...	...	138	66	...	225	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes .....Pcs.	...	24	96	18	78	234	12	282	...	48	...	...	...	...	30	...
Medium and Broad Cloths ... ,,	12	...	36	6	12	226	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...
Camlets .... ,,	30	50	110	60	170	1,300	30	50	...	100	90	...	..	...	60	...
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	...	360	60	160	1,200	...	40	...	20	...	...	...	...	40	...
Lastings ..... ,,	...	...	30	...	30	1,060	...	110	...	60	20	...	...	...	20	...
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians... ,,	140	...	210	...	...	600	160	2,907	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	...	120	240	...	60	974	120	618	...	60	...	...	...	...	150	...
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs .....Pcls	131	...	108	39	304	39	...	...	..	331	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	269	...	1,285	83	...	567	210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	‡ Total Deliveries.			Total Imports.			Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns, dated 1st Jan., 1883.	
	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jany. 1883.	Against last year same term.	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jany 1883.	Against last year same term.	‡ *At date Estimated.	Against 11th Dec., 1882.
Grey Shirtings † .....Pcs.	84.770	4,426,438	4,703,405	34,200	3,867,263	5,022,872	1,354,500	1,648,800
T-Cloths..... ,,	19,529	1,673,542	1,634,117	16,200	2,143,438	1,703,797	1,014,000	775,400
White Shirtings ..... ,,	31,170	1,183,287	1,249,178	8,850	1,161,174	1,264,479	419,700	547,900
Drills, English and Dutch ,,	7,805	342,404	365,367	2,250	104,689	383,555	128,300	371,500
,, American ..... ,,	5,565	414,108	353,165	.....	333,422	519,150	125,000	211,700
Jeans, English and Dutch ,,	2,860	140,177	140,456	.....	142,891	104,493	46,100	36,800
,, American ..... ,,	1,160	25,479	30 160	.....	40,260	32,805	15,900	7,200
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	2,450	194,488	195,266	1,930	152,426	272,950	65,800	160,800
,, Am. ..... ,,	11,480	517,551	524,865	.....	563,535	532,520	182,400	148,900
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	598	64,270	30,499	1,208	51,587	82.151	10,000	54,600
Bro. & Spot. Shts., White ,,	50	4,021	3,363	499	6.394	2,116	2,700	800
,, ,, ,, Dyed... ,,	990	45,244	41,149	2,016	36,738	51,699	14,800	26,700
Damasks, Dyed..... ,,	42	6,944	7,304	.....	7,223	6,658	7,450	4,700
Chintzes..... ,,	2,089	153,070	90,121	4,249	196,564	144,808	82,400	96,500
Printed Twills ..... ,,	1,380	104,263	147,894	.....	73,121	158,690	24,600	45,500
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	3,488	278,560	334,668	936	290,879	362,205	123.900	118,900
Velvets ..... ,,	264	26,410	38,559	.....	14,789	35,293	7,700	19,400
Velveteens..... ,,	120	9,896	12,642	120	7,368	16,176	3,200	6,800
Handkerchiefs .....Doz.	4,110	178,956	208,933	3,367	273,771	176,823	260,200	169,300
Muslins .....Pcs.	200	139,609	163,991	.....	100,115	102,856	26,700	34,800
Dimities..... ..... ,,	.....	4,019	3,353	.....	1,991	1,092	.....	1,600
Cotton Yarn .....Pcls	429	26,454	22,027	360	30,199	17,316	11,400	3,800
Spanish Stripes.....Pcs.	822	37,449	39,747	612	42,862	52,871	20,800	26,500
Medium and Broad Cloths ,,	516	31,614	29,485	6	31.986	42.717	25,200	31,500
Camlets ..... ,,	2,050	98,775	98,547	930	70,477	99,092	12,900	42,500
Long Ells ..... ,,	1,880	80,785	81,268	540	63,992	87,100	24,400	43,200
Lastings ..... ,,	1,330	87,752	73,501	1,410	84,848	72,704	26,700	36,800
,, Crape .... ,,	40	2,351	3,758	.....	2,711	2,478	2,600	3,000
Cotton Lastings & Italians ,,	4,018	174,569	75,210	5,902	156,277	87,636	31,600	59,100
Lustres, Plain .... ,,	.....	6,853	5,885	.....	2,748	2.799	.....	400
,, Figured ..... ,,	2,338	105,041	102,358	.....	85,349	73,055	25,700	59,000
,, Crape ..... ,,	.....	1,960	2,770	.....	120	2.849	.....	800
Lead in Pigs .....Pcls	952	132,402	129,284	3,320	142,292	171.302	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	2,414	161,553	167,637	420	239,122	182,922	.. ...	.....

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex *Glaucus, Glenfinlas, Mark Lane, Daniel, Priam, Orestes, Rambler, Wing-sang,* and *Kaisar-i-Hind.*

Import Cargoes declared *Nyankin, Sindh, Glenartney,* and additionals ex *Liban.*

† Including *English* and *Dutch* 12-lbs.

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COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

12th December, 1883.

Exchange.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 5s. 1⅞d. *a* 5s. 2d.; Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 5s. 2⅜d. *a* 5s. 2⅛d.; First-class Credits to Banks, 4 months'sight, 5s. 3⅛d., 6 months' sight, 5s. 3⅛d.; Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 5s. 3¼d., 6 months' sight, 5s. 3⅝d. On France—Bank, Bills, demand, Fcs. 6.50, Credits and Documentary, 4 months' 6.63; 6 months' sight, 6.67. On New York—Credit and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 77½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 28¼; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 28½. On Bombay—Telegraphic TransfersRs. 316; Calcutta, Rs. 316. Bullion—Gold Bar, Pekin, 98 touch, Tls. 192.25. Silver Bars, Tls. 111.18. Mexican Dollars, Tls. 72 15. Carolus Dollars, Tls. 78.00. Copper Cash, 1,490.

SHARES.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—A fair business has been done this week, at 183% premium and exchange 71⅝ to 181½% premium and exchange 71½, and 180% premium to 176% premium with exchange 73, for cash. Shares were sold at 183% premium for delivery on 31st December in Hongkong, and purchased from Hongkong for delivery on 29th February at 193% premium, and on 31st March at 196% premium. A local sale at 193% premium for 29th February is reported. The market closes strong with buyers at 182% premium, and the private rate on Hongkong for cash, and at 183% premium for 31st December.

Pootung Dock Co.—Shares changed hands at ₹117½.

China Traders' Insurance Co.—Business has been done in Hongkong at $72½.

Canton Insurance Office.—The Report and Accounts for 1882 were presented and passed at a meeting of Shareholders held on 31st October last. The net Premia received, less Returns and Re-insurances, amount to $1,088,567.43, and the Losses and Claims to $779,096.41. The balance of Working Account amounts to $228,166.49, out of which a dividend of 10% was paid to Shareholders and a return of 10% to contributors of business, which absorbed $173,166.49, leaving a balance of $55,000.00, which has been placed to credit of the Reserve Fund.

The Premia received to 30th Sept. last amount to $1,096,299.60, and the profit on the Working Account to that date is estimated at $667,370.26.

Shares were sold at $105 and exch. 72½, and are in demand at that rate.

China Fire Insurance Co.—Shares have been offering at $71 and exchange 73 for cash.

Birt's Wharf Co.—A transaction at ₹46½ ex dividend is reported.

Commonwealth Consolidated Mining Co. of Arizona.—As no business has been done in this stock for a long time we remove it from our list.

Selangor Tin Mining Co.—This stock has been in strong demand and shares have been placed at from $130 to $175 for cash, $190 for 29th February, and $195 for 3rd January.

Perak Tin Mining Co.—Sales have been made at $150 and $140.

Shanghai Electric Co.—A sale is reported at ₹15.

Chinese Loan of 1881.—A number of small lots of Bonds have changed hands at par.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	Position per Last Report.			Last Dividend, &c.		Cash Quotations.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	Closing.
Bank.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	40,000	$125	$125	3,198,336.43	$52,509.62	30 June 83	* £2	28 Aug. 83	147% prem.
Ditto New Issue	20,000	$125	£20	§ 200,000.00	... ..	.....	£0¼		145% prem.
Shipping.									
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation)	22,500	.....	.....	.....	₹22,266.80	31 Dec. 82	Return of T.2 on capital.	19 Oct. 80	Tls. 0.90 nominal.
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	₹100	₹100	.....	₹8,660.77	31 Mar. 83	3 %	24 July 83	₹95
China Shipowners' Association	1,380	₹100	₹100	.....	‡₹14,373.68	31 Mar. 83	† 3 %	23 Feb. 83	₹75
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	60,000	£10	£10	.....	‡ £8,570.0.7	31 Dec. 82	None.		25% disct.
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	₹1,000	₹1,000	.....	‡ ₹4,501.60	30 June 83	None.		₹800
Docks.									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	₹500	₹500	₹8,000.00	₹446.70	30 June 83	* 2 %	7 July 83	245
Pootung Dock Co.	950	₹100	₹100	.....	₹633.21	30 June 83	* 5 %	7 July 83	117½
Gas.									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	₹100	₹100	₹29,000.00	₹21,099.61	31 Dec. 81	* 6 %	19 July 83	163
Compagnie du Gaz	500	₹100	₹100	₹14,840.05	₹11.86	31 Dec. 82	* 5½ %	26 July 83	145
Insurance (Marine.)									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	24,000	$83.33	$25	$600,000.00	$107,411.65	30 Apl. 83	22 %	31 July 83	$72½
North-China Ins. Co.,	1,000	₹2,000	₹600	₹400,000.00	₹562,701.97	30 June 83	₹75	17 April 83	₹1,350
Union In. Society of Canton Ld.	2,000	$1,250	$125	$500,000.00	$580,391.99	30 June 83	$18.29	20 Oct. 83	$620
Yangtsze Insurance Association	1,200	₹350	₹350	₹467,680.05	₹80,555.51	31 Dec. 82	6 %	13 July 83	₹1,000
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	$1,000	$200	$100,378.44	‡ ₹3,907.18	31 Dec. 82	* 4 %	2 July 83	$210
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	$250	$50	$55,000.00	.....	31 Dec. 82	† 10 %	1 Jan. 83	$105
Insurance (Fire.)									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$861,000.00	$250,732.56	31 Dec. 82	† $40 %	28 Feb. 83	$360
China Fire In. Co., Limited ..	20,000	$100	$20	$500,000.00	$142,251.94	31 Dec. 82	† 18 %	1 Mar. 83	$71
Wharfs.									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co...	2,150	₹100	₹100	.....	.....	31 Dec. 82	* 10½ %	16 Aug. 83	₹300
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company ...	2,100	₹50	₹50	₹3,449.46	.....	31 Oct. 83	* 5 %	5 Dec. 83	₹46½
Pootung Wharf & Godown Co..	1,750	₹100	₹100	.....	₹2,539.21	31 Dec. 82	3 %	8 Aug. 83	₹93
Mining.									
Selangor Tin Mining Co.	2,500	$100	$100	.....	.....	.....	None.		$175
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	3,000	$50	$50	.....	.....	.....	First year.		$140
Cargo Boats.									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	₹200	₹200	₹1,874.76	.....	30 Dec. 82	* 2 %	14 Aug. 83	₹180
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. ...	1,000	₹100	₹100	.....	₹2,508.07	30 Jun. 83	None.		₹75
Miscellaneous.									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld..	5,000	£20	£20	.....	.....	.....	None.		£30½
Do. do. new issue	1,000	£5 pm.	& £5 call	.....	.....	.....			
Shanghai Electric Co.	500	₹100	₹100	.....	‡ ₹8,525.98	31 May 83	None.		₹15
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. ...	5,000	₹50	₹50	.....	.....	.....	None.		₹35

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentrs.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1875	₹ 42,800.00	₹ 100.00	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	₹104 nom.
Do. 1878	₹ 24,000.00	₹ 100.00	,,	30th June & 31st Dec.	₹105 ,,
Lyceum Theatre Ordinary Debentures..	₹ 17,000.00	₹ 25.00	,,	30th June.	₹ 20 ,,
Do. Preference do.	₹ 5,362.50	₹ 37.50	5 %	31st Dec.	₹ 20 ,,
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 100	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£109½ ,,
Do. do. 1877	£ 1,604,276	£ 100	8 %	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	£105½ ,,
Do. do. 1878	₹ 1,949,500	₹ 500	8 %	April and October.	₹500
Do. do. 1881	₹ 4,384,000	₹ 500	8 %	December and June.	₹500

* For half-year. † For year. ‡ A deficit. § Reserve for equalization of dividends.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

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In consequence of Imitations of THE WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE which are calculated to deceive the Public, Lea and Perrins have to request that Purchasers see that the Label on every bottle bears their Signature thus—

Lea & Perrins

without which no bottle of the original WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE is genuine.

Ask for LEA and PERRINS' Sauce, and see Name on Wrapper, Label, Bottle and Stopper. Wholesale and for Export by the Proprietors, Worcester; Crosse and Blackwell, London, &c., &c.; and by Grocers and Oilmen throughout the World.

10ap-84 10 11th April, 1883.

Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S
CHLORODYNE.

THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE.

ADVICE to Invalids.—If you wish to obtain quiet, refreshing sleep, free from headache, relief from pain and anguish, to calm and assuage the weary achings of protracted disease, invigorate the nervous media, and regulate the circulating systems of the body, you will provide yourself with that marvellous remedy discovered by Dr. J. Collis Browne (late Army Medical Staff), to which he gave the name of CHLORODYNE, and which is admitted by the profession to be the most wonderful and valuable remedy ever discovered.

CHLORODYNE is the best remedy known for Coughs, Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma.

CHLORODYNE acts like a charm in Diarrhœa, and is the only specific in Cholera and Dysentery.

CHLORODYNE effectually cuts short all attacks of Epilepsy, Hysteria, Palpitation, and Spasms.

CHLORODYNE is the only palliative in Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Gout, Cancer, Toothache, Meningitis, &c.

From Symes & Co., Pharmaceutical Chemists, Medical Hall, Simla, January 5, 1880. To J. T. Davenport, Esq., 33, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London. Dear Sir,—We embrace this opportunity of congratulating you upon the wide-spread reputation this justly esteemed medicine, Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne, has earned for itself, not only in Hindostan, but all over the East. As a remedy of general utility, we much question whether a better is imported into the country, and we shall be glad to hear of its finding a place in every Anglo-Indian home. The other brands, we are happy to say, are now relegated to the native bazaars, and, judging from their sale, we fancy their sojourn there will be but evanescent. We could multiply instances *ad infinitum* of the extraordinary efficacy of Dr. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne in Diarrhœa and Dysentery, Spasms, Cramps, Neuralgia, the Vomiting of Pregnancy, and as a general sedative, that have occurred under our personal observation during many years. In Choleraic Diarrhœa, and even in the more terrible forms of Cholera itself, we have witnessed its surprisingly controlling power. We have never used any other form of this medicine than Collis Browne's, from a firm conviction that it is decidedly the best, and also from a sense of duty we owe to the profession and the public, as we are of opinion that the substitution of any other than Collis Browne's is a DELIBERATE BREACH OF FAITH ON THE PART OF THE CHEMIST TO PRESCRIBER AND PATIENT ALIKE. We are, Sir, faithfully yours, Symes & Co., Members of the Pharm. Society of Great Britain, His Excellency the Viceroy's Chemists.

CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, has been sworn to.—See *Times*, July 13, 1864.

Sold in bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each. None is genuine without the words "DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the Government Stamp. Overwhelming medical testimony accompanies each bottle.

Caution.—Beware of Piracy and Imitations.

Sole Manufacturer—J. T. DAVENPORT, 33, GREAT RUSSELL ST., BLOOMSBURY, LONDON.

5ja-84 17 6th July, 1883.

JUST PUBLISHED

THE

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FOR

SEPTEMBER.

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THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER AND RESTORER,

Has the Largest Sale of any Medicine in the World.

For cleansing and clearing the blood from all impurities, cannot be too highly recommended.

For Scrofula, Scurvy, Skin Diseases, and Sores of all kinds it is a never-failing and permanent cure.

It Cures old Sores.
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Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face.
Cures Scurvy Sores.
Cures Cancerous Ulcers.
Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.
Cures Glandular Swellings.
Clears the Blood from all impure Matter, From whatever cause arising.

As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS.

Sold in Bottles BY ALL CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the world.

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Trade Mark,—"Blood Mixture."

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tf 21 7th July, 1882.

SLIPS
OF THE
NORTH-CHINA DESK HONG LIST
OF THIS YEAR

HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO

CHEFOO, NEWCHWANG,
CHINKIANG, NINGPO,
FOOCHOW, PEKING,
HANKOW, TIENTSIN,
ICHANG, WENCHOW,
KIUKIANG, WUHU,
SHANGHAI,

FOR REVISION FOR THE ISSUE OF

1884.

Residents at these places are requested to kindly send in their Returns as early as possible, even if no change has occurred.

NEW FIRMS and RESIDENTS whose names do not appear in the "North-China Desk Hong List, 1883," will oblige by furnishing particulars to the Publisher before 15th December next.

"NORTH-CHINA HERALD" OFFICE,
15, *Hankow Road, Shanghai.*

n tf 13th November, 1883.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS
(SINCE REPORT PER LAST ISSUE.)

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & RIG.	TON.	CAPTAIN.	FROM	SAILED.	CARGO.	CONSIGNEES.
Dec 3	Store Nordiske	Dan str	595	Suenson	Corea, &c.			G. N. Tel. Co
... 3	Breconshire	Br str	1240	Williams	Japan			Adamson, Bell and Co
... 4	Kiang-tcen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	Dec 3	General	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Posang	Br str	983	Irvine	Hongkong	Nov 29	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 4	Chung King	Br str	793	Smith	Tientsin	Dec 1	Ballast	Butterfield and Swire

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ARRIVALS—*Continued.*

Date.	Ship's Name.	Flag & Rig.	Ton.	Captain.	From	Sailed.	Cargo.	Consignees.
Dec 4	Yungning	Chi str	325	Lincoln	Wenchow	Dec 2	General	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Fungshun	Chi str	863	Tisdall	Tientsin	... 1	Ballast	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Kiangyü	Chi str	2275	Knights	Hankow	... 1	General	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Chin-tung	Chi str	835	Winsor	Swatow and Amoy	... 1	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Lamington	Br str	1276	Bark r	Glasgow & Manila		do	Primrose and Co
... 4	Wingsang	Br str	1517	Jackson	Glasgow, &c.	Oct 1	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 4	Hae-an	Chi str	710	Dircksen	Tientsin	Dec 1	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Catherine Marsden	Br sch	2-7	Danielsen	Nagasaki		Coals and Planks	Lewis & Hopkins
... 4	Seewo	Br str	1059	Mitchell	Swatow & Amoy	... 1	General	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 5	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	... 4	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 5	Yehsin	Chi str	754	Deegan	Tientsin	Nov 30	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 5	El Dorado	Br str	900	Young	Tientsin	Dec 2	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 6	Tientsin	Br str	682	Robinson	Swatow	... —	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 6	Shanghai	Br str	1198	Martin	Hankow	... 3	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 6	Sual	Br str	261	Scott	Hankow	... 3	do	G. McBain
... 6	Peking	Br str	954	Heuermann	Hongkong	... 2	do	Siemssen and Co
... 6	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	... 5	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 7	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	... 6	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 7	Hae-shin	Chi str	763	Petersen	Foochow	... 5	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 7	Yang Tsé	Fr str	2422	Fuch	Hongkong, &c.	... 3	Mails, &c.	Messageries Maritimes
... 7	Taiwo	Br str	718	Friend	Hankow	... 4	General	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 7	Nagoya Maru	Jap str	1914	Walker	Japan	... 4	Mails, &c	M. B. M. S. S. Co
... 7	Priam	Br str	1572	Butler	London, &c.	Oct 11	General	Butterfield and Swire
... 7	Wuchang	Br str	793	Shaw	Tientsin	Dec 2	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 8	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	... 7	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 8	Kiang foo	Chi str	1468	Morse	Hankow	... 5	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 8	Pautah	Chi str	869	Patterson	Tientsin	... 3	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 8	Pechili	Br str	880	Hurst	Tientsin	... 3	do	Jardine, Matheson and Co
... 8	Nanzing	Br str	807	Balbirnie	Nagasaki	... 6	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 8	Hideyoshi Maru	Jap str	466	Black	Kuchinotzu	... 4	Coals	M. B. Kaishia
... 9	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	... 8	General	Butterfield and Swire
... 9	Ingo	Ger str	671	Jesselsen	Nagasaki	... 6	Seaweed & Coals	M. B. M. S. S. Co
... 9	Keelung	Br str	919	Clegg	Swatow & Amoy	... 6	General	Butterfield and Swire
... 9	Opritchnik	Rus corv	1400	W. Ewachnecoff	Foochow	... —		
... 9	Tyne	Br str	434	Hazard	Nagasaki	... —	Coals	M. B. M. S. S. Co
... 9	Ichang	Br str	1249	Batten	Hankow	... 6	General	Butterfield and Swire
... 9	Orestes	Br str	1323	Webster	London, &c.	Oct 14	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 9	Waverley	Br str	404	Stout	Taku	Dec 5	do	Morris and Co
... 9	Wha-on	Br str	262	Carozzi	Hankow	... —	do	John Bagster
... 9	Hwaiyuen	Chi str	984	Wilson	Hongkong	... 5	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 9	Fuyew	Chi str	920	Croad	Taku & Chefoo	... 7	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 10	Fungtsze	Br str	782	Schulz	Hongkong	... 6	do	Siemssen and Co
... 10	Kung Wo	Br str	737	Flagg	Hankow	... 7	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 10	W. C. de Vries	Br str	669	Smith	Hankow	... 7	do	G. McBain

DEPARTURES
(FROM THE ANCHORAGE AND WOOSUNG.)

Date.	Ship's Name.	Flag & Rig.	Ton.	Captain.	Destination.	Cargo.	Dispatched by
Dec 4	Fooksang	Br str	990	Hogg	H'kong & Canton	Sundries	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 4	Kiang-kwan	Chi str	1030	Perkins	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Lee-yuen	Chi str	734	Barfoot	H'kong & Canton	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Taku	Br str	608	Davies	Foochow	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 4	Yung-ching	Chi str	761	Andrew	Chinkiang	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Sin Nanzing	Br str	714	Waddilove	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 4	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 4	Vigilant	H.M.d-v.	835	Maxwell			
... 4	Luzon	Am sh	1339	Willey	Manila	do	C. & J. Trading Co
... 5	Amoy	Br str	814	Potts	H'kong & Canton	do	Siemssen and Co
... 5	Ngankin	Br str	1921	Perks	Hankow and Ports	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 5	Poochi	Chi str	544	Lancaster	Chinkiang	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 5	Wenchow	Chi str	560	Young	Chefoo	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 5	Hae-an	Chi str	710	Dircksen	Chefoo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 5	Fung-shun	Chi str	863	Tisdall	Chinkiang	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 5	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 5	Yoritomo Maru	Jap str	612	Gall	Nagasaki	do	M. B. Kaishia
... 6	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 6	Fuh Wo	Br str	600	Davis	Hankow and Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 6	Nepaul	Br str	1987	Wyatt	Hongkong, &c.	Mails, &c.	P. & O. S. N. Co
... 6	Daniel	Ger bq	416	Vogt	Singapore	do	Master
... 6	Posang	Br str	983	Irvine	S'tow, H'kong & C'ton	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 6	Chung King	Br str	793	Smith	Amoy & Swatow	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 7	Chin-tung	Chi str	835	Winsor	Amoy and Swatow	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 7	Glenartney	Br str	1399	Sommers	L'don, F'chow & S'tow	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 7	Kiangyü	Chi str	2270	Knights	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 7	Canton	Br str	1195	J. C. Jacques	New York v. Amoy	do	Adamson, Bell and Co
... 7	Yungning	Chi str	324	Lincoln	W'chow v. Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 7	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 8	Tientsin	Br str	682	Robinson	Amoy & Swatow	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 8	Sual	Br str	261	Scott	Hankow and Ports	do	G. McBain
... 8	Shanghai	Br str	1198	Martin	Hankow and Ports	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 8	Ningpo	Br str	761	Cass	H'kong & Canton	do	Siemssen and Co
... 8	Kiangteen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 9	Glaucus	Br str	1604	Jackson	L'don v. F'chow & S'tow	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 9	Taiwo	Br str	718	Friend	Hankow and Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
... 9	Haeshin	Chi str	763	Petersen	Foochow	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 10	Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire
... 10	Espoir	H.M. g-b	455	Gamble	Chinkiang		

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